

U.S. Reclaims Economic Self-Confidence From Japan

By David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — As American industry continues its surprisingly strong expansion, the Japanese are more pessimistic that their country will dominate the world economy in the next century and Americans are more confident than at any time in years that they can meet Japanese competition.

In a poll conducted this month in both countries by The New York Times, CBS News and Tokyo Broadcasting System, only 25 percent of Japanese said they thought their country would be the premier economic power over the long term. Just three years ago, when Japanese newspapers and airwaves were filled with predictions of America's decline, 53

percent expected Japan to emerge as the most important economic superpower.

Now, the survey shows, there is far more awareness in Japan about the economic rise of China, traditionally Japan's biggest competitor for influence in Asia, than there is among Americans. A quarter of all Japanese identified China as the coming dominant economy in the world, in the United States, only 11 percent said a third country would emerge as the biggest economic power, though they were not specifically asked about China.

The survey of 1,337 Japanese and 1,147 Americans showed a marked improvement in the sour view each country took of the other only 18 months ago, with more Japanese and Americans describing

relations between the two countries as "friendly." But the poll also indicated a growing suspicion on the part of Japanese citizens that the United States is no longer a reliable military ally.

For the first time since 1990, when the question was first asked, less than 50 percent of Japanese expressed confidence that Washington was an ally they could depend upon. And for the first time, a majority of Japanese said that Japan should consider amending the section of their American-written constitution that has prevented the country from creating a fully capable military force, able to project power beyond its own shores or send troops overseas.

"This is a dramatic change from the past," said Richard Samuels, a political scientist at the Massa-

chusetts Institute of Technology and the author of a recent study of Japan's postwar military policy. "Fifteen years ago, you could not talk about a change in the constitution," he said. "Now Japanese politicians and the media have really transformed public opinion to prepare Japan for the worst case — what happens if the Americans cannot be depended upon for their defense."

Americans were also less confident they could rely on Japan as an ally. A total of 67 percent said they could count on Japan in 1990, but in the latest poll the figure fell to 53 percent. Japanese also showed growing comfort with taking a larger role in international affairs 50 years after the end of World

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Russia Plans To Invade Rebel Capital, General Says

But He Assures Action In Grozny Will Not Be A 'Classical' Storming

New York Times Service

MOSCOW — As Russian and Chechen forces battled fiercely for control of the outskirts of Grozny, Russia's minister of defense, General Pavel S. Grachev, said Thursday that his troops planned to advance deep into the besieged Chechen capital.

General Grachev is the first Russian official to say that Russian troops would be ordered to invade the city, rather than blockade it.

But, in keeping with President Boris N. Yeltsin's promise to spare civilians and limit Russian casualties, the defense minister said at the Russian command post in Mordok that Russia would not storm the city "in the classical sense."

Instead, he said, "the movement inside the city will continue in order to confiscate arms and liquidate criminal groups."

Widespread opposition to Mr. Yeltsin's invasion is mounting, although there were signs in Grozny on Thursday that Russian bomber pilots were trying to destroy only strategic or military targets. They succeeded in blowing up one of Chechnya's major oil refineries, which is southwest of the city.

Kremlin officials seem intent on seizing Grozny as soon as possible. The newspaper Nezavisimaya Gazeta published a confidential report Thursday in which General Grachev laid out a plan for seizing the city on Jan. 15. The paper said the report was delivered by the general at a meeting of the National Security Council on Dec. 21.

"Assault groups are to be formed by Jan. 5," General Grachev is reported to have informed Mr. Yeltsin's top security advisers.

Apparently referring to widely reported incidents of field commanders refusing to fire on civilians, he explained that the advance on Grozny was delayed because Russian troops "did not use arms to ensure rapid advance when local civilians blocked the actions of the Russian Army units."

General Grachev also reportedly warned privately of something that Russian officials have denied publicly: that the defiant Chechen leader, Dzhokar Dudayev, "enjoys broad support among the Chechen population."

The news service Interfax reported Thursday night that Mr. Dudayev had sent a telegram to Mr. Yeltsin saying that he was ready to start talks with the Russian team "without preconditions."

Mr. Dudayev has repeatedly alternated vows to fight on to the last man with assurances that he welcomes peace negotiations with Moscow — only to then raise the precondition that Russian troops leave Chechnya.

Peace talks have so far been blocked by the fact that the Chechen rebels insist that Russian troops first withdraw from Chechnya, while Moscow demands that the Chechens first disarm.

General Boris Gromov, a hero of the Afghan war and deputy minister of defense, is the most senior Russian officer to

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Despite Signs Of Renewal In Rwanda, Danger Lurks

By Raymond Bonner
New York Times Service

KIGALI, Rwanda — Signs that life is returning to normal can be found everywhere in Rwanda. A roaring crowd fills a Kigali stadium for a Sunday afternoon soccer match. The cement factory in the southwest is operating again. Children play in dirt schoolyards. Day laborers in their green aprons pick tea on vast estates. And the carols of worshippers pour forth in a packed church where scores were massacred in April.

But in the six months since the end of a civil war that surpassed the unthinkable — hundreds of thousands of people were slaughtered and then hundreds of thousands fled — such signs mask two crucial unresolved problems that threaten to pitch this country into another cauldron of violence.

They are refugees and justice — too many of the former, too little of the latter. Real stability within Rwanda remains elusive, indeed impossible, while more than 1 million Rwandans are still in exile in neighboring African countries. But the refugees will not return until they know they can get their house or plot of land back, until revenge killing and arbitrary imprisonment stop.

And that will not happen, Rwandans and UN officials agree, until there is a judicial system that punishes those responsible for the massacres.

For Rwanda's leaders, recreating a homeland is an intimidating task, one made harder by the lack of international aid — most of which has gone thus far to help the refugees, not to rebuild a nation. It is also a test of their political strength and skill as they seek to re-establish trust in the face of new ethnic friction and the shadow of the former government and its military, now in exile with the refugees.

Few countries have suffered the destruction Rwanda has. The human loss is incomprehensible — at least half a million of the Tutsi minority killed — men, women and children shot, stoned, hacked up with machetes by Hutu militiamen and soldiers.

There may be no administrative building in this country that still has its roof and windows. Offices were systematically looted, or simply vandalized, by officials of the former government before they fled.

What unleashed this mayhem? It was not simply an eruption of long-simmering

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CO-PILOT BURIED — The casket of David Hilemon on its way to graveside in Gig Harbor, Washington, as talks with North Korea continued. Page 8.

Finance Chief Out as Mexico Tries to Slow Peso Flow

By Tod Robberson
Washington Post Service

MEXICO CITY — Finance Minister Jaime Serra Puche resigned Thursday amid a growing political crisis over his handling of a peso devaluation that has caused the currency to lose 40 percent of its value against the dollar over the past 10 days.

President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, moving to ease tensions among angry international investors and lure back a

reported \$8 billion that has been withdrawn from Mexico this month, announced Mr. Serra Puche's resignation in a nationally broadcast speech delayed until the close of U.S. and Mexican stock markets.

Mr. Zedillo took the action under intense international pressure to avert a looming inflationary and cash-flow crisis caused by the devaluation, combined with domestic calls for him to halt a growing peasant uprising in southern Chiapas,

Officials say he also will announce an "emergency economic program" on Monday that will include revenue-raising and price-stabilization measures along with a plan to cut the federal budget by as much as 10 percent.

Mr. Zedillo said that he had accepted the resignation "in order to harmonize, integrate and execute the emergency economic program with credibility and effectiveness," in a tacit acknowledgment that Mr. Serra Puche had lost the confidence of

the international investment community. The announcement followed meetings here Thursday and Wednesday between Mr. Serra Puche and a team of International Monetary Fund advisers.

He will be replaced by communications and transport secretary Guillermo Ortiz Martínez, who until Mr. Zedillo's Dec. 1 inauguration had served as second-in-command of the Finance Ministry under

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CIA: Looking for a Mission Under Heavy Criticism, Agency Seeks A Director, and a Post-Cold War Role

By Stephen Engelberg
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — With his resignation as director of central intelligence, R. James Woolsey Jr. leaves an agency under siege and still trying to articulate a new mission for the post-Cold War era.

Not since the 1970s has the CIA come under such sustained and varied criticism, both for its narrow vision and inbred cul-

NEWS ANALYSIS

ture. And not since those days of congressional inquiries and revelations of coups, plots and assassinations has the agency appeared to have so few friends in the Washington establishment.

While the agency's defenders insist that many of the criticisms are unfair and that the Aldrich Hazen Ames spy case is not a metaphor for widespread incompetence, even former CIA directors are calling for radical changes. Just this year, Congress set up a bipartisan commission to set a course for the agency.

A new director may well repair the agency's strained relations with the White House, Congress and the FBI. But the ultimate task confronting Mr. Woolsey's successor — defining a role for the intelligence agencies in the 21st century and selling it to the public — will prove far harder to accomplish and will require action by the White House as well as the CIA.

"This is the moment where the china has to be broken and every conventional assumption has to be challenged," a senior administration official said. "The message is: If you are not producing unique information unavailable by other means, you do not get the dollar."

Over the past four years, the intelligence agency has notched up some notable successes, accurately forecasting in 1990 the breakup of Yugoslavia and the resulting civil war.

But its record in other areas is mixed. The agency raised the alarm about the threat of North Korea's nuclear program. But its analysts took a decidedly skeptical view of prospects for negotiating a settlement, though talks did eventually bear fruit.

The agency correctly pointed out the growing instability in Somalia, but overstated the resistance American forces would encounter in restoring President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power in Haiti. And the agency's analysts were criticized for passing on to Congress unsubstantiated

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Clinton Says He'll Pursue Re-election

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite severe Democratic setbacks in the November elections, President Bill Clinton said Thursday that he would seek re-election in 1996 and was not bothered by the prospect of facing a challenge for the Democratic nomination.

"I don't know" if there will be a Democratic challenger, he said, "and I'm not worried about it." The president made his remarks in an Oval Office interview.

"I intend to seek re-election," Mr. Clinton said, "but that is not uppermost in my mind."

U.S. and North Korea Set Pilot's Release

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and North Korea have reached an agreement to free the U.S. Army pilot held for 12 days after his helicopter went down over the Communist nation, an administration official said. The official said Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall was to be released by 9 P.M. Thursday, Washington time. As part of the agreement, the United States will "just express regret" and work to prevent similar incidents in the future, the official said.

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AFTER THE QUAKE — A woman in northern Japan making her way Thursday on a road damaged by Wednesday's earthquake.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 6.06	Down 0.53%
3833.43	112.71
The Dollar	Thurs. close
DM	1.5528
Yen	99.85
FF	5.3515

The Shifting EU Leadership It's France's Turn to Assume the Helm, But Germany Has Laid Out the Course

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — As Germany prepares to hand over the European Union presidency to France, an event that once was expected to symbolize joint Franco-German leadership instead underlines Bonn's growing dominance at a time of French indecision over European policy, officials and analysts say.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl has used Germany's economic and political power over the past year to shape the Union's course for years to come.

Even before its six-month presidency began, Bonn's diplomacy sealed accords that will allow Sweden, Finland and Austria to enter the Union on Jan. 1. And under German stewardship this fall, the Union set a strategy for letting as many as 10 East European states into the club beginning around the turn of the century.

"Germany is clearly increasingly getting what it wants," said Stanley Crossick, director of the Belmont European Policy Center in Brussels.

France, meanwhile, is finding it hard to decide what it wants in a Union that is growing rapidly beyond its control. The most striking feature of its EU presidency, which begins Sunday, is a six-week halt to EU ministerial meetings around France's two-stage presidential election in late April and early May.

That highly unusual scheduling gap has fanned fears in other capitals that Europe's business may be held hostage to domestic French politics and raised doubts about

whether Paris will live up to some key commitments.

Those include the scheduled March 26 lifting of border controls with eight other EU countries, a step that could clash with tighter French security following last week's hijacking of an Air France jet by Islamic extremists in Algeria, and the start-up by June of Europol to fight international crime, which Paris has blocked until now.

French officials say the election will not be an obstacle and point out that Germany held a national ballot in the middle of its presidency. But Bonn managed to chair a foreign ministers' meeting that settled the Union's strategy toward Eastern Europe just 12 days before its October election.

There is "some confusion" inside the government and among the opposition about whether France should adopt a more nationalistic stance or pursue deeper EU integration, said Robert Toulmon, head of the French Association for European Union Studies in Paris.

That confusion is more likely to persist now that Jacques Delors, the outgoing president of the European Commission, has decided not to run for the French presidency, which could have turned the election into a referendum on Europe, Mr. Toulmon said.

The remaining front-runners, Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, have sounded more skeptical about greater power-sharing with

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U.S. Accuses the Serbs of More Atrocities

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The State Department has accused Bosnian Serb forces of a new round of atrocities and announced that the United States has contributed \$13 million in cash and services to the war-crimes tribunal in The Hague established by the United Nations.

Accusing the Serbian militias of rape, robbery, subjecting non-Serbs to forced marches and forcing prisoners into labor camps, the State Department spokesman, Mike McCurry, said Wednesday: "These crimes did not arise spontaneously or by happenstance. Unless those responsible are held accountable, there can be no lasting peace and reconciliation in Bosnia."

The establishment of an international tribunal to gather and publicize evidence against alleged war criminals has long been a cornerstone of U.S. policy.

Largely at U.S. insistence, the UN Security Council created the tribunal, the first international attempt to prosecute individuals for wartime atrocities since the trials in Germany and Japan after World War II. The chief prosecutor, Richard Goldstone of South Africa, recently obtained his first indictment and is actively pursuing others, U.S. officials said.

The tribunal does not have custody of any suspects and may never have custody, an administration official acknowledged. But the purpose of the indictment exercise is to get the names and the deeds into the historical record to show participants in future conflicts that the international community will not accept such conduct.

Citing UN estimates, Mr. McCurry said Bosnian Serb forces "have expelled, killed or imprisoned over 90 percent of the 1,730,000 non-Serbs who,

before the war, lived throughout the territory now held by the Bosnian Serbs."

He said "the latest round in this campaign of ethnic cleansing, begun last summer, has accelerated in recent months," especially in the communities of Bijeljina in the northeast, Banja Luka in the northwest, and Rogatica, near the Gorazde enclave.

"Brutal and heinous methods have been employed to force the Muslim population from their homes," Mr. McCurry's statement said. "There have been numerous incidents of Bosnian Serbs bursting into Muslim homes at night to evict, rob, and rape the residents."

"Women, children and elderly people have been forced to flee during such evictions, regardless of their health or physical condition," he continued. "Men of military age have been taken prisoner and made to perform forced labor in detention camps and on the front lines."

2 French Tankers Refuse to Dock at Ports in Algeria

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The crews of two French fuel tankers sailing to Algeria refused to put into port Thursday because of concerns about security and both vessels turned back to France, maritime sources said.

The crews of the *Tellier*, bound for Skikda, and the *Descares*, headed for Arzew, voted not to dock in Algeria.

"We agree with the crews that we would like to see the government explain to us what security measures are being taken," said a spokesman for Compagnie Generale Maritime, owners of the *Tellier*. The ship has a crew of 29.

France has banned its airlines and shipping firms from taking passengers to Algeria until new security guidelines are in place following the hijacking of an Air France jet by Islamic fundamentalists in Algiers.

The authorities initially also banned freight shipments to Algeria by French air and sea carriers but the ban was lifted after 24 hours.

In London, the War Risks Rating Committee, a panel of insurers, was considering putting Algeria on a list of countries with risks that could raise premiums for shipments to the country. A decision was expected early next year.

French police commandos freed the airline's passengers on Monday and killed all four

Algerian guerrillas in a raid on the plane at Marseille airport. The guerrillas had killed three of the passengers.

France is a major trading partner of Algeria, a former French colony, and up to 2 million people of Algerian origin live in France. Hundreds of people are trapped in crowded waiting rooms in Marseille waiting for ships across the Mediterranean.

French authorities on Thursday identified another of the four hijackers. He was identified as Makhlouf Benguetat, a 25-year-old born in El Harrach, Algeria, a source said, adding that Algerian officials had identified him through fingerprints.

According to Algerian authorities, Mr. Benguetat was not a previously known member of the Armed Islamic Group, the hard-line organization responsible for the Airbus hijacking, the French source said.

On Monday, the Algerian interior minister named the head of the four-man hijack team as Abdallah Yahia, who also operated in the El Harrach region of the former French colony.

Algerian security officials said Thursday that their troops had killed 61 armed Islamic fundamentalists in the past five days. On Nov. 5, security officials said 34 fundamentalist fighters had been killed in clashes with the army.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

54 Die as Jet Crashes In Storm in Turkey

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ANKARA — Fifty-four people were killed Thursday when a Turkish Airlines plane crashed in a snowstorm while trying to land in eastern Turkey, officials said.

Turkish Airlines said the Boeing 737 aircraft was carrying 69 passengers and 7 crew members on a flight from Ankara to the eastern city of Van when it crashed in a blizzard. All were believed to be Turkish.

Turkish television said the plane crashed after two attempts to land had been aborted.

"There are 53 dead and 23 injured—all the people aboard have now been accounted for," Murat Ozkan, Van's deputy governor, said by telephone.

Turkish television said later that one of the injured had died, bringing the death toll to 54.

Flights to Van are often canceled in winter because of bad weather and poor visibility, pi-

lots told the Anatolian News Agency.

Television pictures showed the aircraft ripped apart and lines of bodies half-buried in the snow. Rescue teams combed through the wreckage under faint flashlight beams.

The tail section of the airliner, where the survivors were said to have been seated, was intact.

Most of the passengers were members of the Turkish security forces based in the southeastern region, where the army is fighting Kurdish rebels.

Military personnel are under strict orders to avoid traveling by road in the region because Kurdish guerrillas often target passenger buses in search of security officials.

Mr. Ozkan said the aircraft had split into three pieces after hitting a hill about 10 kilometers (6 miles) from Van and 4 kilometers from the airport.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

WORLD BRIEFS

UN Observer Is Shot at Iraqi Border

KUWAIT (AFP) — A UN military observer was shot and wounded Thursday on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border, the official Kuwaiti press agency, KUNA, reported.

Yivanov Danot, a 32-year-old Romanian, was hit in the thigh. The agency gave no further details, and members of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission were not immediately available for comment.

In August, a Bangladeshi soldier was shot and killed and two others were wounded on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized border zone. Iraq blamed smugglers for the incident.

China to Bar Influx Into Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AP) — A senior Chinese security official has guaranteed that China would prevent a mass influx of Chinese into Hong Kong after China regains sovereignty over the territory in 1997, Hong Kong press reports said Thursday.

According to the reports, the deputy minister of public security, Tian Qiyu, said China would begin a publicity campaign to make it clear that it would not be possible for Chinese to simply walk across the border to Hong Kong.

The reports said he made the remarks in Beijing to a Hong Kong legislator, Tam Yiu-chung, who is visiting China with a delegation from the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, a pro-Beijing party in this British colony.

Death Toll in U.K. Storms Rises to 9

LONDON (AFP) — The death toll from storms battering Britain rose to nine Thursday after 48 hours of torrential rains and high winds in some regions, rescue services said.

On the south coast of England, near Poole, a cyclist was killed after a gust of wind blew him off his bicycle, and near the northwestern city of Manchester a canoeist drowned in a river swelled by floods. Two people died near Oxford in road accidents caused by heavy downpours.

Five people died Wednesday in Northern Ireland when their motorboat capsized on a stormy lake.

The spokesman said seven government soldiers were wounded.

Tamils Repelled in Sri Lanka Attack

COLOMBO (AFP) — Tamil rebels Thursday mounted an unsuccessful bid to overrun an army camp in eastern Sri Lanka, losing at least 11 men in an assault that dealt a further blow to government efforts to resume peace talks, officials said.

Dozens of heavily armed guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam attacked Thamparavil camp in the coastal district of Batticaloa, but troops repelled the predawn strike and inflicted heavy casualties, the spokesman said.

A military spokesman said that 11 bodies of guerrillas had been recovered, but their casualties were believed "to be much higher." The spokesman said seven government soldiers were wounded.

Liberia Truce Holding, Officials Say

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Military officials said Thursday that a cease-fire appeared to be holding across Liberia, despite aid workers' reports of fighting in the southeastern and central parts of the country.

Those battles appeared to have ended before the truce came into effect at the end of the day Wednesday, according to Brigadier General Gabriel Anyankpele, chief of the African peacekeeping force in Liberia. "Up to this afternoon it was holding," he said of the cease-fire, which is part of an accord signed last week by Liberian warlords.

As an incentive to rebels to disarm, the United Nations observer mission in Liberia has offered fighters almost six times as much money as during an earlier disarmament attempt in March. But there are concerns that the seven faction leaders will again squabble over the makeup of an interim government.

Arab Leaders Make an Appeal to Iraq

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — The leaders of Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia ended two days of talks Thursday with criticism of Israel and appeals to Iraq to implement all UN resolutions related to the 1991 Gulf War.

The meeting was seen as a move to bring at least some measure of unity to an Arab world divided over making peace with Israel and by quarrels dragging on from the war. The statement on Iraq seemed to be a softening of the mainstream Arab position; some Arab leaders had hinted that Iraq would not be welcomed back as a partner until President Saddam Hussein was removed from power.

In a communiqué, Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Hafez Assad of Syria and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia stressed support for Syria's stand that Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab territory to achieve peace.

For the Record

Suspected Muslim extremists shot and killed three policemen Thursday in southern Egypt, a day after the police killed seven radicals in raids on their hideouts in the area. (AP)

Two double-decker buses collided Thursday in London, sending 14 people to a hospital. Rescuers had to free several people trapped in the buses after the accident, which occurred near Trafalgar Square. (AP)

TRAVEL UPDATE

American and United Join Fare Cuts

HOUSTON (Combined Dispatches) — American Airlines and United Airlines said Thursday that they would match fare cuts offered by Continental Airlines.

Continental had said it would offer discounts of up to 40 percent on trips within the United States and abroad. Foreign destinations include Mexico, the Caribbean, London, Paris, Frankfurt and Madrid. Tickets will be sold until Jan. 13. The discounted fares will apply for travel between Jan. 5 and May 23, except on Florida routes, where the sale will be in effect only until Feb. 15.

United said it would match Continental's discounts for both domestic and international travel; American said it would match domestic discounts, but a spokesman said he did not yet know if the carrier would match the international discounts. (AP, Bloomberg)

A growing rat population and poor garbage collection have caused bubonic plague to spread through Peru, where more than 1,000 cases were reported this year with at least 33 deaths, the Health Ministry said. (AP)

Sabena said Thursday it would operate three daily services between Brussels and Paris-Orly starting Jan. 15. (AFX)

The German railroad Deutsche Bahn said prices would be raised Feb. 1. In Western Germany, they will increase 1 pfennig to 25 pfennig (16 cents) per kilometer, and in the East, they will go up 3.2 pfennig to 20 pfennig per kilometer. (Knight-Ridder)

Belgian truck drivers held up traffic Thursday in several southern Belgian cities, including Mons and Liège, as their weeklong protest over a highway tax continued. (Reuters)

A Polish UN soldier guarding a checkpoint Thursday at Karlovac, Croatia, where 1,000 Muslims have taken refuge.

Hopes for Truce by Weekend in Bosnia

Reuters

PALE, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnian Serbian and United Nations military commanders wound up talks on a proposed four-month cease-fire without signing a truce document, but indicated that they still hoped to do so by the weekend.

Earlier, the Bosnian Serbian leader, Radovan Karadzic, said that agreement was close and that the Serbs might sign the cease-fire with the Muslim-led Bosnian government during the course of the day.

The UN commander in Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Michael Rose, said before he left Pale, the Bosnian Serbian political headquarters just outside Sarajevo, "I hope we are going to get some conclusion by the weekend."

"Today it might be a little too soon because we were not expecting it before Jan. 1, and we still have two days to go," he said.

General Rose added: "There are no main problems. There are details we are discussing, which I wouldn't go into."

The Bosnian Serbian military commander, General Ratko Mladic, added: "I agree with what General Rose has just said. I hope the parties to the conflict will sort the details out."

A cease-fire brokered by former President Jimmy Carter has been in force in Bosnia since Dec. 24.

It is intended to allow time for negotiations on a more comprehensive four-month cease-fire, under which UN peacekeeping troops would be stationed

along front lines, to be completed by Jan. 1.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government, however, has warned that it will not agree to the four-month cease-fire if Serbs keep attacking around the northwestern Bihac enclave. The United Nations said Serbs were fighting there on Thursday.

"There is fighting going on around Bosanska Krupa" — on the edge of the enclave — "with tanks, artillery and mortars," a UN spokesman, Edward Joseph, said by telephone from the enclave. "The tanks for sure would be the Bosnian Serbs."

General Rose visited Bihac on Wednesday to try to halt fighting in the area.

China Clears Regulations on Treatment of Prisoners

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China's top legislative body on Thursday approved the country's first law governing the running of its prison system, which human-rights groups assert is notorious for torture, forced labor and other forms of inmate abuse.

The National People's Congress passed the law, part of the government's attempt to rein in rising crime, at a standing committee session that closed Thursday, the Xinhua news agency reported. It takes effect immediately.

While the full text of the law has yet to be published, Xinhua said it set "explicit standards" for the police in charge of prison affairs and "rigorously prohibits mistreatment and forced confessions."

The new law also is intended to protect "prisoners' legitimate rights to safety, property, defense, appeal and accusation," Xinhua said.

The main aim of the seven-chapter law is to "correctly mete out penalties, punish and reform criminals, and prevent and reduce crimes," the agency said.

Prisoners should be required to work as part of their rehabilitation but also should enjoy education opportunities, the report said.

"Chinese prisons should adhere to the principle of combining punishment with rehabilitation, and education with labor," it added.

The Xinhua statement did not spell out what kind of labor prisoners should be required to

perform. Reports that prisoners work long hours making products for export have become a human-rights concern in the West in recent years.

The law also allows for criminal or disciplinary sanctions to be taken against prison police found guilty of such "improper practices" as releasing prisoners without authorization.

The official media has recently highlighted several cases of prison employees accepting bribes to release inmates who have yet to serve their full sentences.

The news agency earlier had reported that a draft version of the bill ready for passage also banned the police from extorting money or forcing confes-

sions from prisoners or withholding their property or mistreating them in other ways.

The law follows regulations guaranteeing prisoners' rights circulated internally by the Ministry of Public Security in 1982, said Robin Munro of Human Rights Watch/Asia in New York. (AFP, AP)

Beijing Denies It Is Developing Jet With Israel

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China denied Thursday that it was building a fighter plane with Israel based on U.S. design and technology.

"There is no such thing," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "The Los Angeles Times report is groundless."

The Los Angeles Times, in an article carried in Thursday's International Herald Tribune, reported that China and Israel had already produced a prototype for the Lavi fighter plane, and that production could start soon at a plant in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The report was based on information from U.S. government experts on the Chinese military. It said the plane was comparable to an American F-16 and would include extensive U.S. technology.

But the report also quoted a vice president of Israeli Aircraft Industries International and an official at the Israeli Embassy in Washington as denying that they were transferring U.S. technology to China.

(Reuters, AFP)

Bangladesh Chief Offers Foes a Deal

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DHAKA, Bangladesh — The prime minister offered Thursday to resign just before elections in 1996 to break a political deadlock that has brought strikes and a mass resignation from Parliament by the opposition.

Khalida Zia said her government would step down 30 days before elections due in early 1996 to meet an opposition demand for a caretaker administration to ensure fair elections.

She said power would be handed over to President Abdur Rahman Biswas, who belongs to her governing Bangladesh Nationalist Party. He

would head an interim government.

She appealed to opponents who resigned from Parliament on Wednesday to return, saying: "I believe the opposition will realize what they have done was wrong and harmful to the country."

But opponents responded by calling for Begum Zia, who came to power in 1991, to resign immediately to make way for elections.

An eight-hour strike on Thursday virtually shut down the country, stopping transportation and disrupting trade and commerce. The opposition has

staged 37 days of general strikes in the impoverished country since 1991 aimed at ousting the prime minister.

The opposition had said that it was prepared to let Begum Zia rule until three months before the elections in 1996 and that she should then make way for a caretaker government. But on Thursday opponents called for her immediate departure.

Hasina Wazed of the Awami League, told a news conference that she now wanted the president to dissolve Parliament immediately to prepare for early elections.

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THE AMERICAS

Republicans Seek Child Disability Shift

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — House Republicans are drafting legislation that would abolish federal cash payments for 847,000 poor children who are severely disabled. They would replace the payments with vouchers that could be spent on a more limited program of medical care.

The lawmakers said the proposal was part of the Republicans' overall effort to redesign the nation's welfare system and control costs. It would fundamentally alter the program, Supplemental Security Income for children, which provides cash grants of up to \$446 a month for children with chronic illnesses and disabilities like mental retardation, cerebral palsy and spina bifida.

Administration officials said Wednesday that they were willing to consider the Republican proposal and would be interested in making changes in the program as long as those changes helped disabled children become productive, working members of society.

Republicans express many concerns about the current program. They note that the number of children receiving disability benefits has soared, to 847,000 this year from 296,000 in 1989, and that the annual cost has tripled, to \$4.4 billion. They contend that benefits are paid to children with common behavior problems and that some parents coach children to fake disabilities.

But advocacy groups and parents of disabled children say the program enables them to cope with the extraordinary costs

of caring for these children at home. They say, too, that many items and services purchased under the program would not be covered by the proposed vouchers, which could only be used for medical expenses and equipment.

Under current law, Supplemental Security Income payments may be used for food, shelter, clothing and a wide range of medical and social services.

For example, the money can be used to hire specially trained child-care workers or to purchase diapers so an incontinent child can attend school. Parents are supposed to report annually how the money is used.

The parents say the program is economical because it is far more expensive to care for disabled children in institutions rather than at home. They say abuses have been exaggerated.

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Lawyers Aim to Delay Depositions

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's lawyers said Thursday that they were happy with a U.S. District Court decision to postpone a sexual harassment trial until the president has left office but that they probably would appeal one aspect to prevent pretrial fact-finding.

Mr. Clinton's lawyers had sought at least to delay the lawsuit brought by Paula Corbin Jones, saying a trial would interfere with his ability to carry out the duties of the presidency. Ms. Jones says that Mr. Clinton propositioned her in a Little Rock hotel room in May 1991 when he was governor of Arkansas and she was a state employee.

In her ruling Wednesday, Judge Susan Webber Wright said that the parties to the lawsuit could go ahead with pretrial "discovery" work, including questioning the president.

Ms. Jones's lawyers responded by saying they would soon begin an "extensive" program of taking depositions from Mr. Clinton and other witnesses. This is exactly what the president's lawyers hope to avoid. (Reuters)

Surviving House Liberals Not So Liberal

WASHINGTON — Because so many moderate Democratic members of the House of Representatives were wiped out in the Republicans' midterm election deluge last month, most political analysts have assumed that the Democratic contingent in the new 104th Congress would be not only smaller — by about 50 seats — but also more liberal.

Not so, according to Americans for Democratic Action, which bills itself as "the nation's premier liberal organization." Its average rating for Democrats in the 103rd Congress, based on whether they voted the way the group wanted them to on 20 key bills, was 75 percent in the first session and 70 percent in the second. But the average score for the 197 returning members is only 68 percent. (LAT)

Maryland Loser Takes Outcome to Court

WASHINGTON — With three weeks until the scheduled inauguration of Parris N. Glendening as Maryland's next governor, the Republican he defeated, Ellen R. Sauerbrey, is doing what she can to keep him from being sworn in.

Saying that voter fraud and technical irregularities were responsible for her losing to the Democrat by 5,993 votes, Mrs. Sauerbrey has sued Mr. Glendening, his running mate, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, and state election officials. She is asking the state court to either declare her the winner or order a new election.

A trial is scheduled for Jan. 9.

Mrs. Sauerbrey said that an investigation by her campaign organization had "brought into serious question" the legality of more than 11,000 ballots — out of more than 1.4 million cast — including 4,774 that she contended were cast in the name of people in prison on Election Day.

A lawyer for Mr. Glendening said his client would ask the court to dismiss the suit or rule against it outright. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Raymond Smock, a University of Maryland professor and official historian of the House of Representatives, after the Republican leadership decided to abolish his office: "I am very disappointed that the Republican transition team has seen fit to end our 11 years of service to the House, the public and the press. Preserving the history of the House of Representatives is not a luxury; it is an important and necessary component of the information the public needs to understand this vital institution." (AP)

Fellow Inmates Win Some Simpson Perks

Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, moving to counter the perception that O. J. Simpson is getting special treatment in jail, said that the football hero's case had prompted the department to liberalize its rules to allow hot meals for other inmates in long court trials.

Mr. Block also revealed that Superior Court Judge Lance A. Ito, in a court order delivered late last week, has moved to curb what has been a persistent point of contention between the sheriff's office and Mr. Simpson's defense team — unlimited visitation privileges for friends and family members of the former athlete who are included on a list of 52 "material witnesses" in his double homicide case.

The list is the longest in recent memory, and Mr. Block has contended it is part of a defense plan to circumvent jail policy by allowing visits in the attorney's room at hours not available to other inmates.

Judge Ito's recent order cuts back Mr. Simpson's private visits on weekends, the sheriff said.

Mr. Block repeated his contention that "alleged special treatment" for Mr. Simpson was intended to facilitate operations at the jail.

"I think it's very important that everyone understands that an individual's status outside of the jail does not entitle them to any special treatment when they become a resident inside the jail," the sheriff said.

"If you come from a mansion in Brentwood, living in a 7-by-9-foot cell I imagine would be horrendous," he added.

Mr. Block said Mr. Simpson's stay at the jail had prompted some recent changes in policy, giving other inmates privileges that Mr. Simpson's attorneys needed a court order to obtain.

In one Simpson-inspired change, Mr. Block said, all prisoners involved in a trial for three weeks or longer are now entitled to a warm meal when they return to their cells too late for dinner.



A gardener trimming the hedge at Mr. King's birthplace, part of a memorial site and now the center of a dispute.

Rift Over King Memorial Simmers On

New York Times Service

ATLANTA — The tomb and birthplace of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., the most popular tourist attraction in Atlanta, may be visible only from a distance if a long-running feud between the National Park Service and the King family is not resolved.

After a 14-year partnership designed to share Mr. King's legacy through guided tours, the family has ordered the Park Service off the property, and has no plan of its own, so far, to give guided tours.

"You are to remove all Park Service personnel and property by the close of business Dec. 28, 1994," wrote Sonny Walker, executive director of the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, in a letter to the Park Service.

Under these arrangements, people who want to see one of the shrines to the civil rights movement can still walk with park rangers past the King birthplace and tomb on historic Auburn Avenue, but they will not be allowed into the house or tomb area.

The ultimatum is the latest development in a dispute over the Park Service's plan to build an \$11.8 million visitors' center in honor of Mr. King across the street from the King Center. The visitors' center, on land owned by the Park Service, is expected to be in place by the start of the 1996 Summer Olympics.

The King family has opposed the visitors' center because it wants to build a multimedia museum to Mr. King on the same site.

A spokeswoman for the King Center

said the King family is most upset that the Park Service did not include it in plans for the visitors' center. The family feels it is being squeezed out of planning for the five-block-long Martin Luther King National Historic Site, she said.

Representative John R. Lewis, Democrat of Georgia, said he planned to hold a Jan. 7 meeting in Atlanta to try and resolve the dispute.

In the meantime, unless an agreement can be worked out, visitors to the King birthplace and tomb will not be able to put their hands on history. Instead, they will get only a glimpse of the site and a prepared speech from tour guides.

More than 3 million people a year visit the King Center, which includes Ebenezer Baptist Church, where Mr. King and his father were pastors.

For Visiting Blacks, a Painful Walk in Africa's Past

By Howard W. French
New York Times Service

CAPE COAST, Ghana — By the time she reached the top of the cobblestone ramp leading out of the dungeon that was a door of no return for her ancestors, Doris Jenkins had to prop herself up against the whitewashed walls of this town's old slaving fort to collect herself.

It was the same for scores of other black visitors from America and Europe as for Ms. Jenkins, a teacher from Boston.

The pilgrimage to the place known as the Castle, one of the many European slave-trading centers strung along Ghana's 270-mile (435-kilometer) coast, turned into the central event in a weeklong festival of African culture put on by Ghana's government.

"I feel a chill when I think of the cruelty that drove this business, the heartlessness," said Ms. Jenkins, 51, echoing the comments of one visitor after another who filed through the turreted stone fortress of the slave

trade that thrived on this coast for nearly four centuries.

Gatherings like this in Africa have often tended to confine themselves to incidents of Europe, whose giant trading companies carried more than 650,000 Africans into slavery from this country's coastline in the 18th century alone.

But at this often-tearful homecoming, Africans and African-Americans alike engaged in an unusually open process of soul-searching over the role of Africans in a process that caused so much suffering.

From the Africans at this festival, known as Panafest, there were greetings to long-lost "brothers" that many African visitors clearly cherished.

There were also rebukes for the Americans' superficial knowledge of Africa and their failure to pitch in with wealth and expertise to help the continent.

For many of the hundreds of the participants, though, it was finally time to discuss a subject that, if never

quite taboo, has not been widely acknowledged either by Africans or black Americans outside of academia: the lucrative involvement of many Africans themselves in helping supply the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

"Until there is an admission by Africans that they were involved in the slave trade, the healing process will be difficult to realize," said Imakus Nzinga Okofo, a former New York City resident who has taken up residence in Cape Coast, where she leads American visitors on tours of Ghana's slave-trading monuments. "Though the European was responsible, he could not have done as much without the cooperation of Africans."

Ghana gained independence from Britain in 1957, setting off a wave of freedom from colonialism. Since then, African intellectuals have focused much discussions of slavery on the damage done by foreigners to their cultures by the removal in bondage of as many as 15 million people over a 400-year span.

But calls like these to acknowledge the practices of Africans themselves in precolonial times have recently begun to resound loudly in Ghana. Africans took captives during tribal wars for use locally as servants, and later they took captives for sale by the millions to Europeans.

In a midnight ceremony on the eve of Panafest, Ghanaian traditional chiefs sacrificed a cow before a gathering of African-American visitors in an act that was meant as an offering of atonement for the sins of their ancestors.

"I believe there is a great psychic shadow over Africa, and it has much to do with our guilt and denial of our role in the slave trade," said Kofi Awoonor, a Ghanaian writer and former delegate to the United Nations who led a discussion on slavery at the festival. "We, too, were blameworthy in what was essentially one of the most heinous crimes in human history."

MEXICO: Finance Chief Resigns Amid Peso Crisis

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Serra Puche's predecessor, Pedro Aspe.

Despite dismissing Mr. Serra Puche, Mr. Zedillo still faces the difficult task of restoring international investors' confidence in Mexico while convincing average Mexicans that their dreams of economic prosperity have not suddenly been shattered by the devaluation.

Both groups had their hopes and expectations raised to unrealistic levels, economic analysts say, when President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and Mr. Serra Puche waged an all-out lobbying effort last year to win NAFTA's ratification. Mr. Salinas told Mexicans that the accord would bring new jobs, higher wages and vast new trade opportunities, while he attracted foreign companies here with promises of cheap labor, low inflation and high yield on investments.

Thursday, however, foreign investors clearly are not enthusiastic. Investor concern over losses in Mexico has been so high this week that Standard & Poor's, the financial rating firm, held a 90-minute international telephone conference with investors Wednesday afternoon. Caller volume was so heavy that operators needed more than 30 minutes to connect the participants.

Mr. Serra Puche, the former commerce minister who was Mr. Salinas's chief lobbyist in Washington during last year's U.S. congressional debate over the North American Free Trade Agreement, has been blasted in the Mexican press and by American investment analysts as the instigator of the current economic crisis.

"The damage that he has done to the country in the way he managed the peso devaluation is monumental," wrote

Raymundo Riva Palacio, a columnist for the Reforma newspaper, in a presidential call Thursday for Mr. Serra Puche's dismissal.

Under Mr. Salinas, both Mr. Serra Puche and Mr. Aspe permitted Mexico's trade deficit to soar to its projected 1994 level of \$28 billion — a level that Mr. Zedillo said was far out of proportion with the country's gross domestic product. He cited this "excessive" current-accounts deficit as the chief cause of the peso devaluation.

To stanch the flight of foreign capital over the past week, Mexico doubled interest rates on its 28-day Treasury bill Wednesday, promising returns of 31 percent in hopes of luring back nervous investors. Mexican officials also are working with the IMF to arrange an emergency credit line, supplementing \$7 billion in credit offered last Thursday.

Away From Politics

- The Canadian Health Ministry is to investigate how the computerized medical histories of thousands of patients in the Vancouver area, stored on at least 20 floppy disks, ended up on sale at a discount store in Langley, British Columbia. (AP)
- The 14 trustees of the Freedom Forum, a foundation in Arlington, Virginia, led by the USA Today founder, Allen H. Neuharth, agreed to pay the forum nearly \$174,000 to settle allegations of improper use of the organization's funds for lavish travel, custom furniture and the promotion of Mr. Neuharth's autobiography. (WP)
- An electric space heater apparently started a fire that killed nine members of a Haitian family, including six young children, in a house in Orange, New Jersey. (AP)
- Breezy weather scrubbed the launching near Reno, Nevada, of the Earthwinds Hilton balloon for a fifth attempt to make aviation history with a nonstop flight around the world. (AP)
- For the first time, New York state accepted a computer-generated image of what an inmate would look like without a beard instead of making him shave for a conventional photograph, as is required. The inmate, Rabbi Shlomo Helbrans, the leader of a small Hasidic sect, has a religious belief that a man's beard must not be touched. (NYT)
- Family members of two of the 68 people killed in the crash of an American Eagle commuter plane in Indiana in October have filed lawsuits against the airline and the Italian-French consortium that made the plane. (AP)

Naples Sees Threat to U.S. Personnel

German Woman Arrested at Site of '88 Terrorist Bombing

The Associated Press

NAPLES — Security was boosted Thursday after the police found ammunition on a woman photographing a U.S. military site that was struck by terrorists in a 1988 bombing. Pictures of North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials and airports were discovered in her hotel room.

The woman was being investigated for possible terrorist links. The authorities identified her as Marlies Walter, 47, a German citizen living in Nimes, France.

The police said they found bullets in one of her pockets. In her hotel room, officials said, they found photographs of NATO officials, European politicians and several airports.

Also found in the room were

newspaper articles on the recent hijacking of an Air France jetliner; NATO's intervention in the former Yugoslavia, and pictures of Ms. Walter and other people dressed in camouflage combat clothing.

Ms. Walter was arrested while taking pictures of a USO center, which offers recreation and other services for U.S. military personnel.

Five people, including a U.S.

servicewoman, were killed on April 14, 1988, in a car bombing at the club.

Junzo Okudaira, leader of the Japanese Red Army terrorist group, was sentenced in absentia to life in prison in 1992 by an Italian court. He remains a fugitive.

Security was increased around Naples's port and other areas of the city, which has a large U.S. military presence.

CIA: As Agency Chief Leaves, U.S. Central Intelligence Still Searches for Post-Cold War Role

Continued from Page 1

ed allegations about Mr. Aristide's mental health.

The challenge to the CIA on these and other issues was: What can the agency provide that is not available from American diplomats, foreign press reports and what intelligence officials call "open sources"?

A senior administration official said that many policymakers take for granted the cascade of information from the myriad agencies that fall under the director of central intelligence. "No country can access information the way U.S. intelligence agencies access information," he said. "It isn't even close."

Defenders of the agency say that while it has faults, they are not all of its own making.

"The CIA is like a giant dog," one former intelligence official said. "They will follow the master. But you've got to put them on the leash. When you've got the National Security Council and the president sending signals that 'we don't think you're important,' they just wander around lost."

Throughout the Cold War, the mission of the CIA was clear. The Soviet Union was the "target." Thousands of highly trained officials pored over satellite photographs and studied intercepted conversations in an effort to measure the Soviet military buildup, predict the accuracy of its missiles and alert policymakers to other potential flashpoints.

With the fall of communism,

the agency's mission was simultaneously reduced and made more complicated.

The Soviet Union's nuclear weapons were spread over the former Soviet republics. The U.S. military found itself embroiled in Third World trouble spots, like Somalia and Haiti — places that were not vital to American security but where a handful of casualties could transform the political equation at home.

To reduce the risk to their troops, military officers demanded up-to-the-minute data on everything from anti-aircraft missiles in Bosnia to the array of forces in Somalia. While some of the countries, like Bosnia, are relatively open to Westerners, others, like North Korea

or Iran, remain closed societies, in which even the leaders' most basic intentions are unknown.

Mr. Woolsey's supporters say he made some important contributions during his two years at the CIA, launching a new system of secret electronic surveillance and reconnaissance satellites that will gather intelligence data well into the next century. That emboldened Mr. Woolsey in combative budget disputes with some lawmakers.

In a speech last month at Georgetown University, Representative Dan Glickman, Democrat of Kansas, the former chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said that after the fall of the Berlin Wall the agency rushed to do any task

"simply to preserve its infrastructure."

Mr. Glickman, who was nominated on Wednesday as secretary of agriculture, said in his speech: "Our committee questions whether the CIA needed to be writing studies of evangelical Protestantism in Latin America, AIDS, or Norwegian whaling policy — matters better left to academic think tanks or offices within the

State Department or other government departments."

Not the House committee charged, has the CIA tailored its espionage operations for the post-Communist era. The committee noted in June that, four years after the dismantling of the Berlin Wall, the agency was still many steps away from rethinking its plans for recruiting spies.

"Thus far, CIA plans have the look of old wine in new bottles, albeit smaller ones," the committee said.

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Russians and Chechens

Just one day after Boris Yeltsin promised to stop bombing civilians in rebel Chechnya, he resumed bombing civilians. He had offered "peace talks," meaning that the Chechens could talk about a cease-fire, their own disarmament and the replacement of their leader, Dzhokar Dudayev. The Chechens rejected these transparently one-sided terms, insisting on adding the element of Russian military withdrawal. This was too much for President Yeltsin, who wants to subdue the Chechens, not negotiate them. What the military results in the broader political battle of Chechnya he is losing.

Is conciliation—a political solution—possible? Certainly it is harder now, after Russia has brought massive force to bear against a determined mountain people, than it was just two weeks ago when the major assault began. But the Yeltsin leadership has already lost the opportunity of setting an example of decisive and effective action to his proclaimed goal—maintain the unity of Russia. It would do better now to show the maturity to end this civil war on negotiated terms. Otherwise Mr. Yeltsin merely advertises his frustration and widens the gaping divide that his Chechnya intervention has produced within his own society and his own

government and even his own military. The erratic style of Mr. Yeltsin's leadership in this crisis of the Russian state is much noted and has taken a heavy toll on his personal reputation and standing. These things rise and fall, but he could yet be dragged down. Still, the deeper impact may be on the course of democracy. Russian democratic institutions and habits may not yet be strong enough to withstand the tremendous strains put upon them by the involvement in civil war and much else. Mr. Yeltsin may have a good lawyer's case for his intervention. But he needs to apply it with a statesman's touch that has so far been grievously lacking.

The United States formed its own national territory sometimes by military means, and it fought a bloody civil war to preserve the integrity of the nation. It still leans to a policy of favoring Boris Yeltsin for his avowed commitment to market democracy. But historical understanding and friendly intent do not require the United States simply to pronounce Chechnya an "internal" Russian matter, as it has done, and let it go at that. It has its own interest in a Russian policy that looks to living with the people who are now a thorn in Russia's side.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Mexico Shouldn't Panic

Mexico's peso crisis has obviously shaken Mexican officials and foreign investors alike and could damage Mexico's short-term economic prospects. But it does not reflect fundamental flaws in Mexico's newly liberalized economy. Moreover, President Ernesto Zedillo's economic ministers have responded to the challenge competently, avoiding premature efforts to peg a new exchange rate. The markets will eventually stabilize. On Wednesday the peso rebounded some 15 percent.

Devaluations inspire temporary crises of confidence, and this one is no exception. It is likely to lead to slower growth, faster inflation and fewer imports from the United States. A larger gap between U.S. and Mexican wages could tempt more Mexicans to cross the border seeking work. Opponents of the North American Free Trade Agreement will be tempted to say they told you so.

But without NAFTA these negative consequences might have been even more pronounced. NAFTA also helped bring emergency financial support from the United States, in the form of \$6 billion in credits aimed at shoring up investor confidence. A far larger package is now reportedly being prepared.

It is up to Mr. Zedillo, however, to reassure poor Mexicans that after years of waiting for the rewards of economic liberalization to trickle down, they will not be put off again with promises. His task will be all the harder because restoring confidence abroad will require a degree of budgetary austerity at home that could force him to defer some of his planned new social spending for awhile. But he need not retreat from his promises to open up Mexico's political system by disentangling the ruling party from the government and assuring more honest state and local elections. There

are risks in liberalizing a semi-authoritarian political system at a time of disappointment. The risks of not opening up would be far graver.

Traditionally, outgoing Mexican administrations take responsibility for any devaluations during a transition period. But Mr. Zedillo's predecessor, Carlos Salinas, gambled that foreign investment would soon recover from the slowdown amid last year's political troubles and that no devaluation would be necessary. It was reasonable to bet that Mexico needed to woo investors with a period of exchange rate stability and could afford the cost of growing trade deficits.

But those investors held back, and Mr. Zedillo had little choice but to let the peso fall. His finance minister has been criticized for denying the possibility of devaluation until the last moment, but that is standard practice everywhere. Now there are demands that the government intervene to defend a new exchange rate, but that would be premature before the market begins to settle down on its own.

Mr. Zedillo, who won the ruling party's presidential nomination only after the original nominee was assassinated, and won the presidency after the fairest vote recount in modern Mexican history, is being faulted in some quarters for not being a take-charge leader like his predecessor. Yet he could turn out to be the right man for these times. He understands the economic imperatives of the moment and is right to resist calls to defend an indefensible fixed peso rate.

He also seems to understand the political imperatives just as clearly and has committed his administration to long-overdue political reforms. He should remain confident, disregard panicky advice and maintain his sensible course.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Change at the CIA

James Woolsey's resignation as the U.S. government's intelligence chief has a bit-terness quality. By talent, disposition and prior service, he was unusually well equipped to run intelligence and, not least, to plan its post-Cold War future. But he never seemed quite to fill the large space that his credentials penciled in for him.

Partly it was his manner of reserve, which in fact hid a core of integrity. By waiting for hard evidence in the explosive Ames investigation, for instance, rather than simply going ahead and lopping off heads, he ran afoul of a congressional impatience that was already building on other issues, such as the inevitable rough and tumble of downsizing the CIA. More than that, he got into a surprisingly instant and public confrontation with the chief Senate intelligence overseer. These several frictions lowered the reservoir of congressional understanding that, had it been fuller, would have helped him when he met criticism for his high disciplining of the Ames case counterintelligence crew.

But it wasn't just that his effectiveness was reduced by getting crosswise from his Hill committee, especially on the Senate side. He happened to work for a president who was never all that much interested in suffering intelligence briefings and who evidently never took to his ideas on intelligence reorganization. This meant that when Mr. Woolsey got in trouble on other fronts, he did not have the full squad of White House defenders that might otherwise have been useful to him.

For his work, nonetheless, he earned high marks as someone who wasn't flashy but did things in a solid though not a dominating way. His determination to keep up the intelligence budget brought him the grudging regard of bureaucratic rivals. He was burdened, in some respects unfairly, by the breaking of the case of Aldrich Ames, the "mole" who sold out American agents to Moscow.

The next director of Central Intelligence will be able to build on work done by Mr. Woolsey. It must be ensured that counterintelligence is locked firmly into place in the "culture" as well as the formal procedures of the CIA. The debate—the struggle—over the refitting of intelligence for post-Cold War duty is far from complete. Bill Clinton himself will have to demonstrate his readiness to cultivate intelligence and to use it in ways consistent with the national interest.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Thinking About Islam

Radical Islam has reared its head over the Christmas holidays. The danger is to demonize Islam as a whole. We rightly object to the characterization of Western society as irredeemably corrupt. But we are guilty of the same sloppy thinking if we regard all Muslims as fanatics.

—The Daily Telegraph (London).

Two Tracks for NATO Toward Central Europe and Russia

By Zbigniew Brzezinski

WASHINGTON — What should be Europe's and NATO's relationship with Russia? The question must be answered soon, and decisively, if America's historic commitment to Europe is to remain intact.

It is axiomatic that America's security and Europe's are linked. That means that both sides must define what constitutes Europe and what is the security perimeter of NATO. And it means that the relationship between Europe, Russia and America should encourage the emergence of a Russia that is both benign and demo-

cratic—a prospect that is by no means certain.

The agenda is as daunting as the one America faced in the late 1940s. Remember that the formation of NATO was a response not just to the Soviet threat but to the need to assimilate a recovering Germany into the European system. Now the enlargement of the European Union—favored by a powerful Germany—means that the question of expanding NATO must be addressed head-on.

Failure to address this issue would compound the danger that the Atlantic alliance may disintegrate—a trend that the Bosnian tragedy has made all too evident.

The disgraceful indecisiveness of both the Bush and the Clinton administrations has helped to divide NATO, pitting Britain and France (backed from the outside by Russia) against the United States and Germany. Bosnia represents an immediate challenge to the alliance's political cohesion.

The absence of a long-range design for Europe could deprive it of its historical reason for being.

Although President Bill Clinton repeatedly has said that the issue is no longer whether NATO will expand but when and how, his administration has failed to project a strategic vision or a clear sense of direction on a matter of so much salience in Europe's future. Expanding NATO will require a major and consistent effort at the presidential level, and that effort will have to overcome two major obstacles: European timidity and Russian temerity.

Early this month the United States prevailed on its allies to undertake a study of how to expand NATO. The allies approved the study, but with reservations. Germany is divided on the pace of expansion; France is opposed; Britain is skeptical. The Russians simply bluster—warning, as President Boris Yeltsin recently did in Budapest, that NATO's expansion could split Europe and reopen the Cold War—and then act as if they could veto the whole thing.

Within 10 days of Mr. Yeltsin's outburst, Vice President Al Gore, who has been quite tough-minded on this issue, visited Moscow. What he said to the Russians was not made public, but they let it be known that they were reassured by his explanation: 1995 would be spent studying how to enlarge the alliance, and a decision would be made afterward, in close con-

sultation with Russia. Many observers took this to mean that the administration had shifted once again, putting NATO expansion on the back burner.

This was not reassuring to the insecure Central Europeans. An issue of this magnitude is not something to be advanced by a study. It must be approached with a clearheaded strategy and political firmness.

The Europeans will follow and the Russians will accommodate only if the United States advances a constructive vision in which the expansion of NATO is coupled with a cooperative option for Russia—but in the context of an absolutely firm commitment that NATO will be expanded to include the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary, either in cooperation with Russia or without it. Hesitation, inconsistency and weakness will not only discredit American leadership but probably doom NATO altogether.

Russia is in the midst of a sensitive and complex national redefinition. Its relationship to the West—indeed, its very inclination to define itself as part of the West—is uncertain. The void left by Communist ideology has not been filled, and there is fierce debate between those who want Russia to be a national, increasingly European state and those who want a distinctively Eurasian and imperial state.

In that sharpening debate, the "Westernists" are certainly not gaining ground. Some, like Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, who used to lead this camp, seem to be defecting.

The most articulate and politically appealing leaders seem to be those who argue that Russia is

destined to exercise geopolitical sway over Eurasia, that it is the embodiment of a distinctive Eurasian identity and that its special political status must be asserted—directly in Eurasia and indirectly in Central Europe.

The rise of this faction signals the urgency of defining a stable relationship between Europe, including NATO, and post-Soviet Russia. That definition need not consider now whether Russia might eventually become an integral part of NATO, let alone reject that option. It is not even clear whether the Russians wish to be part of NATO. But if excluded and rejected they will be resentful, and their own political self-definition will become more anti-European and anti-Western.

The issue of Russia's association with NATO should be kept open, depending on the speed, depth and breadth of the expansion of the European Union and of the Euro-Atlantic security system. The issue will have to be faced only when a wider NATO has reached the frontiers of Russia, and only if Russia satisfies the basic criteria for membership by then. Neither is likely soon.

The alliance's first step—and it should be taken at the earliest opportunity in the new year—is to formally declare NATO's criteria for expansion and indicate which countries appear to meet them. This would end the counterproductive debates with Russia over whether NATO should expand. The longer this step is delayed, the more vociferous Moscow's objections are likely to be.

In advocating the expansion of NATO, one should note that neither the alliance nor its prospective new members are facing any

imminent threat. Talk of a "new Yalta" or a Russian military threat is not justified, either by circumstances or even by worst-case scenarios for the near future. So the expansion should not be driven by whipping up anti-Russian hysteria that could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Since the intent of any expansion is peaceful—at least for now—it need not involve deploying NATO troops, especially Americans and Germans, on the territory of new Central European members. Periodic joint maneuvers, coordinated planning, positioning of equipment and joint command exercises would be sufficient to give substance to NATO security guarantees.

This should allay some of Russia's legitimate concerns. But not all of its concerns are legitimate, and the alliance should not shrink from making that known.

Just five years ago, the alliance had to overcome Moscow's objections to including the reunited Germany in NATO. Wisely, the Bush administration spurned those who favored acquiescence to the Kremlin. Equally wisely, Moscow gave in. Today's circumstances call for a similar display of constructive firmness. Russia has no right to veto expansion or to impose limits on the sovereignty of the Central European states.

The alliance's strategy needs to proceed on two tracks. As it is laying out its plan for expansion, it needs to invite Russia to help create a new transatlantic system of collective security, one that goes beyond the expansion of NATO proper. Such a system would include a formal treaty of global security between the expanded NATO and the Russian Federation, and a new mecha-

anism for consultation within the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The two-track strategy, combining the expansion of NATO with new transatlantic security structure that embraces Russia, would represent a productive response to Russia's concerns. Some Russian leaders have privately indicated that they would not be averse to it, and it would constructively exploit earlier Russian ideas—notably Mr. Yeltsin's suggestion last year for a special relationship between Russia and NATO. A Russia whose goal is neither to render NATO impotent nor to dominate Central Europe again would have good reason to favor this approach.

Nearly half a century ago, the Soviet Union spurned participation in the Marshall Plan and chose to go it alone—until it collapsed from historical fatigue. Tormented by domestic conflict, troubled by the rise of the new Muslim states to the south and facing a possible future challenge from a powerful China in the east, today's Russia is in no position to engage in a conflict with the West as well.

Moscow can perhaps delay the enlargement of NATO, but it can neither halt Europe's growth nor prevent the extension of the Euro-Atlantic security umbrella over the wider Europe. It can merely isolate itself again. The Kremlin leaders should realize this. The two-track plan outlined here could help them avoid the basic error made by their Soviet predecessors.

The writer was President Jimmy Carter's national security adviser. This comment was adapted by The New York Times from a longer essay in Foreign Affairs.

Washington Is Right to Prepare Expansion of NATO

By Ronald D. Asmus

WASHINGTON — Extending stability to East-Central Europe is the defining issue in European security in this decade. To do this, the Clinton administration is prodding NATO into the first cautious steps toward taking in new members.

Opponents in Western Europe and Russia realize that the train is getting ready to leave the station, and they are trying to stop it.

East-Central Europe, between a unified Germany and Russia, is once again caught in a strategic no-man's-land of the type that has created instability in the past. NATO can help provide a political and security anchor for these fragile democracies so that the world consolidates the victory in the Cold War.

Konrad Adenauer, the Federal Republic of Germany's first chancellor, understood how easily nationalism and bad geopolitical habits might be rekindled in post-totalitarian Germany. That is why he embraced the Atlantic alliance as vital, not only as a bulwark against outside threats but also as a framework that bound Germans firmly on a pro-Western course. What worked for Europe's western half then must now be applied to Europe's eastern half.

The risks and dangers are real. As Chancellor Helmut Kohl often says, the malignant nationalism that has arisen in the Balkans can spread to Central Europe if the West does not take the right steps. Leaders in East-Central Europe agree. That is why they want to join NATO—now, before something goes wrong in the region.

True, these countries are worried about Russian power—who can blame them?—but they have an overriding interest in democratic cooperation with Russia. They see NATO as a bridge builder, not as a way of excluding Russia from Europe. Excluding these countries, incidentally, would not help integrate Russia into Europe but would actually

their most important "vital interest," and that the majority support alliance expansion.

Defense Minister Volker Rittig may be controversial, but he has tabled the only credible vision for harmonizing Germany's new interest in the East with those of Germany's partners and allies in an alliance context.

The European Union has an important interest in seeing NATO expand eastward: the simultaneous extension of market access and security holds the greatest promise of stabilizing the region. The Union's future is far too wobbly for the West to rely solely on it to meet this challenge, and NATO should not have to wait on the vagaries of EU policy.

The best policy is for rapid NATO membership coupled with improved market access, the latter paving the way for eventual Union membership. By developing both the security and the economic components, the West would signal that expansion is designed to enhance stability, not a military move to isolate Russia.

The future U.S. role in Europe depends heavily on NATO expansion. An alliance whose role is limited to defending West European borders has no future in American politics. To anchor the United States in European security, the alliance must accept the duty of stabilizing the East, with a new trans-Atlantic bargain on how to do it. Otherwise it runs the risk of becoming irrelevant.

In American opinion, the status

quo is unsustainable for the alliance. Even traditionally supportive senators will call for U.S. troops to come home unless it remains clear that decisions about future security are being made in NATO, not through the European Union. Signs that Europe is shouldering a major share of the burden of stabilizing its border region will increase congressional support for NATO expansion—a virtuous trans-Atlantic circle.

Russia is crucial for Europe's security. Russia's future is likely to remain uncertain, perhaps for decades, and the idea of holding NATO's growth hostage to the struggle being waged for Russia's soul is a prescription for political paralysis and strategic impotence.

It is premature to conclude that NATO expansion could decisively tip the power balance in Moscow. Russian democrats are understandably concerned, but Russia's future will be determined by far more important factors. For Russia's future, NATO expansion is one small factor. For determining Central Europe's fate, it is a major factor.

The real issue is this: What is Russia's legitimate place in the emerging European security order? NATO expansion does not exclude Russia from Europe, only from NATO. What matters is that the West pursue a broad, balanced strategy to expand cooperation with Russia in an all-European context, with NATO expansion as part of the package.

make that relationship tenuous. NATO expansion also has a direct bearing on contemporary Germany. There is a consensus among Germans that their eastern border must not be allowed to become the eastern limit of Europe or of the Atlantic community.

An alliance that does not deal with Germany's most important national security concerns in the East is no alliance at all.

Opinion polls conducted for the Rand Corporation show that Germans see Eastern Europe as

possible to reassert the themes of mutual support, accommodation, perception of national interest as a grand pattern including as many as possible in an orderly world. But it won't happen without energy and determination, and unfortunately no major government is strong enough and no current leader convincing enough to assure the needed momentum.

Things can fall apart by themselves, for petty reasons. But if that is allowed to happen, in full knowledge of the past that lurks ahead, then the French philosopher Alain Finkielkraut will be justified in considering the 20th "the useless century."

© Flora Lewis.

Next Should Come Europe's 21st Century, Not the 19th

By Flora Lewis

by admitting states further east. But the definition of interest is narrowing, as though the old goals of security, democracy and prosperity could now be safely left to some vague future while states focus, separately, on more immediate economic and political benefits.

In this atmosphere, the sturdy international monuments of the last half century risk being eroded and undermined, without anyone actually wanting that to happen.

Now that it is no longer necessary to fear World War III on the

horizon, a regression has set in toward the mind-sets and antagonisms that brought World War I.

Very senior officials in Paris have begun to talk about a "shifting axis" in international relations.

The new links of policy affinity, arising from differences on Bosnia, Eastern Europe, the embargo on Iraq, the Middle East, are described as bringing a Paris-London-Moscow rapprochement versus a Washington-Bonn-Arab polar alignment.

This is exceedingly dangerous. Paris still aims for a much more vigorous, competent European "defense identity." But noting that the old, automatic confidence in British-U.S. relations has frayed while Germany and America are close on many issues, the French are thinking more of

relations with Russia. Many observers took this to mean that the administration had shifted once again, putting NATO expansion on the back burner.

The French-German partnership remains the key to the future of the European Union, whether it has a chance of increasing consolidation on a large scale or is due to weaken into an extensive version of Charles de Gaulle's "Europe des patries."

The British are pleased with what they see as increasing French disenchantment with the promises of the Maastricht treaty. Germany, for good and understandable reason, wants NATO and the European Union on both its western and eastern borders; it does not want to remain the frontline buffer for France that it has been.

Despite the terrible uncertainties of Moscow, France is tempted to think of Russia as helping to contain Germany. As Yogi Berra said, it's getting too much like that old déjà vu all over again. The dice isn't cast. It is still

possible to reassert the themes of mutual support, accommodation, perception of national interest as a grand pattern including as many as possible in an orderly world. But it won't happen without energy and determination, and unfortunately no major government is strong enough and no current leader convincing enough to assure the needed momentum.

Things can fall apart by themselves, for petty reasons. But if that is allowed to happen, in full knowledge of the past that lurks ahead, then the French philosopher Alain Finkielkraut will be justified in considering the 20th "the useless century."

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IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Bigamy Alleged

LONDON — A case which promises to afford sensational details comes on in the next sitting of the Divorce court. The action arises out of the eccentric conduct of a member of Parliament. About a dozen years ago he formed an attachment for a young woman of humble birth and ultimately married her, settling half his fortune upon her. After her death a man turned up who claimed to be her husband, and sought to establish his rights to her property. He brought an action, making the member of Parliament—who had, according to plaintiff's case, contracted a bigamous marriage—defendant.

1919: Out of Odessa

PARIS — Despatches received in Paris from various quarters state that, owing to the rapid advance

of the bolsheviks, the civilian population of Odessa is evacuating the city. Odessa has already been in the hands of the Reds, who captured it last April, when British warships helped to evacuate 30,000 refugees.

1944: Dutch Ants Stolen

MAASTRICHT, Holland — The meanest thing the Germans did in Holland is known as the "rape of the ants." The Dutchmen resented the confiscation of their gold and silverware, but understood those as war measures. But even quelling Hollanders resented the theft of the greatest collection of ants in the world. Father Erich Wasmann, a Tyrolean Jesuit who came to Holland in 1877, made the collection. His book, "Instinct: Intelligence in the Animal Kingdom," is largely devoted to praise of the intellectual capacity of the ant.



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OPINION

Dean Rusk: Flinty Fidelity And Character to the End

By Edwin M. Yoder Jr.

WASHINGTON — Could it be part of the unfathomable divine plan, more than mere coincidence, that Dean Rusk, the former secretary of state, and my beloved mentor James R. Caldwell Jr. died within a month of one another? I choose to suspect it. Jim died in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, just before Thanksgiving. Mr. Rusk in Athens, Georgia, on Dec. 21.

Their friendship was the source of my own modest personal acquaintance with Mr. Rusk, and the reason why I think I understood certain things about him that puzzled others when he became a beleaguered figure in the Vietnam years.

Jim Caldwell and Dean Rusk roomed together, and vied for top class honors, at Davidson College, where Mr. Rusk was nicknamed Elijah because he was older than other students.

It became his destiny to battle it out courteously with critics of the war. His father, a Presbyterian minister, suffered from chronic laryngitis, and that tragedy thrust the family into hardship. Presbyterians are a folk of the Word, preached and taught, and a person without a voice is almost a contradiction in terms.

When Jim Caldwell was teaching me much of what I know about history at Chapel Hill in the 1950s, his two favorite subjects in informal conversation were Dean Rusk (by then head of the Rockefeller Foundation) and the China-Burma-India theater during World War II. There, he had served, as had Mr. Rusk, as an intelligence officer and shared a deep attachment to his commander, General Joseph (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell.

In the eyes of Jim Caldwell and Dean Rusk, General Marshall was the greatest American military figure since Robert E. Lee — indeed, the only one fit to be compared with him. Some took it as wit when Mr. Rusk was asked on a government disclosure form whether any of his relatives had ever tried to overthrow the government of the United States and answered that two of his grandfathers had. But he was speaking of Confederate soldiers who had followed Lee; and to Southerners of his upbringing

that could never be a joke entirely. If you knew a bit about Jim Caldwell, a consummate teacher who never forgot a student; about Davidson College in their time ("Geneva on the Catawba," as it was fondly known for its Calvinist austerity); and about General Marshall and General Stilwell, you could largely infer what Dean Rusk was like at the core and how he would respond to the crucible of high office.

Unwavering principle, an incisive candor, self-effacement, courtesy and magnanimity to foes, adamant obedience to the chain of command — those were the key qualities. And you could have predicted that when the testing time came, adversity would not weaken but reinforce his tenacious strength, as flame tempers steel.

General Stilwell himself had set the standard of tenacity and candor, early in the World War II, when asked what he would "claim" about the defeat in Burma by the Japanese. "I claim that we took a hell of a licking and we ought to go and take Burma back," he said, with an honesty remarkable among the excuse-making brass of the time.

It became Mr. Rusk's unsought destiny, as secretary of state, to battle it out, courteously but pointedly, with the many official critics of the Vietnam War. Some popinjays of the Kennedy circle found him baffling in that role. He would not play the Washington game of talking out of school and reserved his doubts for the president's ear alone.

Even when targeted as an accessory to war crimes, he denied himself the solace of saying one thing in the Oval Office and another at Washington dinner tables. For me, the flinty fidelities of these two old college friends, Jim Caldwell and Dean Rusk, corrected a youthful tendency to underestimate the centrality of character in life. Of both could be said what a eulogist said of Jim Caldwell at his recent memorial service: "He was in the best sense a Christian gentleman — not pious — but a self-described 'John Knox man' who knew the human condition... the meaning of a dependence on the grace of God, and of... compassion and responsibility."

Like their pantheon of heroes, Lee, Marshall and Stilwell, they lived by the principle that it is who you are and what rules you live by, far more than the caprices of fortune or favor, that count. Those qualities sometimes seem so rare, even in high office, that we count them remarkable.

Washington Post Writers Group.

The Coalition Held in the Ardennes, and It Still Endures

By Roger Cirillo

WASHINGTON — Before dawn on Dec. 16, 1944, Hitler's armored legions moved out of the fog, drizzle and sleet blanketing their Ardennes-Eifel concentration areas to attack four unsuspecting American divisions. No one should have been surprised.

1944 BULGE 1994

The American army had seen German counter-offensives before: at the Kasserine Pass, at Anzio, in Normandy, and during the previous fall in Lorraine. But in December 1944 the Germans needed a strategic miracle.

Over the misgivings of his generals, Hitler devised a bold stroke to reverse his military fortunes in the west: an offensive using more than two dozen rebuilt or newly constituted divisions from a manpower pool hastily expanded to include young teenage boys and marginally fit old men. He called his operation *Wacht am Rhein* (Watch on the Rhine). The plan combined insight, brilliance and foolhardiness in a desperate gamble to cripple the Allied armies at Germany's West Wall.

In broad terms, Hitler's concept replaced the successful 1940 campaign that brought Nazi dominance over Belgium, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. In 1940, the Wehrmacht's drive to the sea isolated the French Army from the British and north European Allies. At that time, German planners correctly gauged the slow, distrustful nature of coalition decisions. From the point of view of numbers, the 1940 plan should have failed. In 1944, Hitler, whose willpower overshadowed his rationality, felt another dash to the sea could turn the tide.

Once again, the Ardennes would provide the avenue for Hitler's tanks. Its twisting roads and picturesque villages, dotting stream lines and road junctions amid forest-

ed hills, would become the scene of one of the bloodiest battles of the war.

But in 1944 the German force was smaller and the race would be run intentionally in bad weather to shield the attackers from the Allied air forces. It also would be shorter: Antwerp, not the north coast of France, would be the goal. Again, the Allies had obliged the attackers by thinly manning the sector in order to free troops for areas that were considered more critical.

Twenty German divisions hit four American divisions the first day. Hitler thought that Americans were poor on defense, and he counted on numerical superiority to break clear paths for his panzers. By nightfall on the 16th, indicators that Hitler had been wrong began to appear. No American units folded or fled. Even though many soldiers were encircled, most continued to resist until their ammunition gave out. While ground was lost, so was Hitler's timetable.

By Dec. 19th, Hitler's plan had essentially failed, though he continued the attack, adding forces. Despite the great tear in the lines, the Allies had responded quickly. Reserves were rushed to shore up the northern sector, and that day the design for German defeat was drawn. With the German salient still growing, crisis loomed in the Allied camp. Drastic action was needed. The decisions were made in Verdun, where 28 years before a generation of Frenchmen had sacrificed themselves following the watchword "They shall not pass."

The supreme Allied commander, General Dwight Eisenhower, made the decisions. George Patton's army would turn north against the Bulge's underbelly. With American paratroopers reinforcing Bastogne in the

south and the St. Vith garrison establishing a firm defense in the north, the "Bulge," as war correspondents had dubbed it, seemed contained within firming boundaries. But the next day, with the enemy onslaught bypassing St. Vith and Bastogne and threatening the coordinated command of the field armies, Eisenhower split the battlefield. Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery would oversee the north flank. General Omar Bradley retained control in the south.

The St. Vith garrison held for nearly six days, breaking the German main effort.

By the end of January, most of the ground lost in the Ardennes and the southern attack area in Alsace had been recovered.

Meanwhile, Bastogne was encircled. Both sides fought desperately on a battlefield now frozen and covered with snow.

The relief of Bastogne did not bring an end to the fighting. Fiercer battles erupted as Hitler shifted the weight of his attacks southward against the Bastogne corridor.

Cracks in the coalition sparked a command crisis. Montgomery raised anew arguments over basic strategy and his demand to command the Allied ground forces. Eisenhower soon found himself caught between a war of newspaper articles on both sides of the Atlantic and the disassembling of his own generals in the theater. Bradley fumed over Montgomery's control of two of his armies and was infuriated by the field marshal's delays in mounting a major counteroffensive. When Hitler shifted reserves to the Alsace

region to mount another offensive to aid his stalled Ardennes assaults, Eisenhower attempted to create reserves by shortening his line, essentially surrendering Strasbourg and part of Alsace. The French were incensed. Ike's own army group commander, General Jacob Devers, delayed the withdrawal and met the new German attacks with a successful defense that yielded less ground than ordered. Strasbourg was saved.

By the end of January, most of the ground lost in the Ardennes and in the southern attack area in Alsace had been recovered. The two sides had suffered more than 100,000 casualties between them.

Historians have long argued whether Hitler's offensive delayed Allied victory or advanced it, whether Montgomery was right to delay and push to change the strategy or whether Patton and Bradley could have somehow trapped the entire German army. Veterans have long argued that their own unit fought best, that St. Vith and not Bastogne was the key or that Alsace was part or not part of the entire campaign.

More significant is what Hitler and other dictators have failed to understand. Dozens of monuments in Belgium and Luxembourg villages mark the sacrifice that free men are willing to make for their own freedom and the freedom of others. The coalition that Eisenhower led, though often visibly agitated and argumentative, never came close to cracking or failing. Not only did it weather the storms of battle, it went on to weather the storms and doldrums of peace and the Cold War. It still endures.

The writer, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and a historian at its Center of Military History in Washington, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Turks and Kurds

The editorial entitled "A Stain on Turkey" (*Opinion*, Dec. 16) demonstrates once again that, however well-intentioned, foreign observers cannot fully comprehend the ramifications of the so-called Kurdish issue. It might be a question of democracy and human rights for foreign friends and "a matter of great political and strategic worry" for Western governments, but it is a matter of survival for us Turks, who do not wish our country to be ethnically fragmented and turned into a new Bosnia.

A "political accommodation" with the Kurds — and I presume with the Kurdish terrorists — according regional autonomy, cultural privileges etc. would open a Pandora's box in a country where there

are several ethnic groups. What help could our Western "friends," with their dismal record in Bosnia, give us in such an event?

ALTEMUR KILIC, Istanbul.

For the Good of Europe

Regarding the editorial "To Add Jobs in Europe" (*Dec. 27*):

The editorial suggests that "structural" unemployment in Europe can be overcome by reducing governments' revenues and by making minimum wages and working hours more flexible. Is it really as simple as that? Doesn't this imply a crippling of the European welfare state, further reducing mass purchasing power at the same time that economists deplore the stagnation of consumer

demand? Why should Europe seek to increase the number of "working poor" by even further deregulation? What kind of society is envisaged in which people are expected to contribute to high productivity through lower wages and longer working hours?

GUNTHER HORZETZKY, Secretary of the President Confederation of German Trade Unions, Düsseldorf.

Trials of a Priest

Greek Helsinki Monitor, which is responsible for the information on Greek human rights problems included in Aaron Rhodes's opinion article "Threats to Human Rights in Europe: Are Threats to Security as Well?" (*Dec. 15*), would like to reply to Ambassador Dimitris Macris's

comment ("Don't Include Greece," *Letters*, Dec. 20).

Contrary to his assertion, Greece today is unfortunately not the exception but the rule in how Balkan countries treat minorities and dissent.

Ambassador Macris writes that "Nikodimos Tsarknias continued to present himself as a representative of the Greek Orthodox Church, though he had no right to do so." Father Tsarknias belongs to the Macedonian Orthodox Church, and does not claim any links to the Greek Orthodox Church. The courts have convicted him 12 times because they do not recognize his right to belong to any church but the Greek one, since he is a citizen and a resident of Greece, an argument that the Greek government's spokesperson, Evangelos Venizelos, reaffirmed on Dec. 14. Such precedent is dangerous for

the Balkans. Among other things, it can be used by other Balkan countries against Greek priests who live in or visit them.

PANAYOTI ELIAS DIMITRAS, Greek Helsinki Monitor, Kifisia, Greece.

Since it had become obvious that the Church of Greece was determined to expel me for my views and my human rights activities, I joined the Macedonian Orthodox Church, and I have been serving it as a brother of its St. George the Great Martyr monastery. Moreover, I have stated to the courts that I respect the Church of Greece's decision, and I have therefore never claimed to belong to it after it decided to expel me. Father NIKODIMOS TSARKNIAS, Aridaia Pellas, Greece.

BOOKS

DAYS OF INFAMY: MacArthur, Roosevelt, Churchill — The Shocking Truth Revealed

By John Costello. 448 pages. \$24. Pocket.

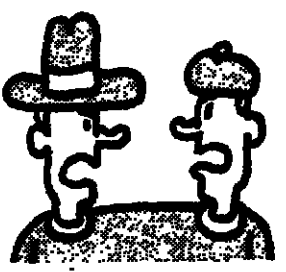
Reviewed by Douglas Brinkley

IT was with some trepidation that I opened John Costello's new book on Pearl Harbor, "Days of Infamy," turned off by its tabloid dust jacket: "MacArthur, Roosevelt, Churchill — The Shocking Truth Revealed." To my relief, I found a remarkable and original scholarly contribution. The odds of such good fortune on the topic of Pearl Harbor are indeed small.

From the moment of the surprise attack on Dec. 7, 1941, conspiracy theorists with firm opinions and few facts have fanned inflammatory speculation that Franklin Roosevelt had out-Machiavelled Machiavelli by allowing the Japanese to destroy the U.S. fleet in Hawaii in order to force reluctant Americans to accept the inevitability of going to war. A staggering array of ludicrous "Back Door to War" theories were concocted in the 1940s. Some fine books have

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Ronald Holden, head of "France in Your Glass," a Seattle-based wine-tour company, is reading "French or Foe" by Polly Platt. "It is the best compendium I've ever seen on the differences and similarities between French and American cultures, with dozens of on-the-mark anecdotes." (IHT)



been written on Pearl Harbor — notably Gordon Prange's magisterial "At Dawn We Slept" — but the majority have been highly sensationalized rubbish.

Costello, a popular British scholar of World War II with nearly a dozen books under his belt, adopts the stance of historian as probing detective; in this instance his painstaking archival research has been especially fruitful. With documents to support his case, Costello successfully rehabilitates the railroaded careers of the Pacific Fleet commander, Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, and the U.S. Army's Hawaiian commander, Lieutenant General Walter C. Short, Pearl Harbor scapegoats, in a

compelling narrative that is bound to upset admirers of General Douglas MacArthur.

The nub of the matter, the heart of the drama of Dec. 7 and 8, 1941, Costello says, played out at Clark Field in the Philippines nine hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, when MacArthur's vulnerable air force was demolished on the ground. The analysis is not particularly new, for the Philippines debacle, particularly MacArthur's decision to leave his planes resting wing-to-wing like sitting ducks, has long baffled scholars of the Pacific War. Forced to retreat, MacArthur evacuated Manila Christmas Eve, and with great fanfare moved his headquarters to Corregidor, an island fortress at the mouth of Manila Bay, just off the Bataan Peninsula. Costello's contribution to this well-known story is fresh documentary evidence that MacArthur was indeed derelict in his duty.

It is impossible to disagree with Costello's conclusion that MacArthur's failure to launch a preemptive air strike against Japanese bases in Formosa immediately following Pearl Harbor, despite specific and direct orders from Washington, was

ample cause for FDR to relieve him of his duties immediately.

Why didn't he? Costello implies that MacArthur was more than a wily opportunist whose mastery of the public relations aspect of war enabled him to use his inflated reputation as a national hero to escape public embarrassment and presidential dismissal. He finds tainted, perhaps treasonous conduct: a \$500,000 personal payoff to MacArthur from President Manuel Quezon of the Philippines, perhaps a bribe to garner U.S. neutrality, but ostensibly to "recompense and reward, however inadequate, for distinguished service rendered between November 15, 1935 and December 30, 1941." This charge is not new, but like a cagey prosecutor Costello moves the reader to deem MacArthur's acceptance of the money, for whatever reason, reprehensible.

Costello's chapters on the blameworthy military careers of Kimmel and Short are also controversial. He convincingly demonstrates that both officers were unfairly reprimanded and relieved of duty, left to bear the brunt of the blame that rightfully belong to MacArthur and the Roosevelt administration.

"It may be too late for Admiral Kimmel and General Short," writes Costello in an unusual display of advocacy history. "But there is now a compelling case to be made for putting the public record straight with a posthumous restoration to the full ranks that the two Hawaiian commanders would have attained had they not been forced to retire in disgrace."

Douglas Brinkley, director of the Eisenhower Center and associate professor of history at the University of New Orleans, wrote this for *The Washington Post*.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

COVER the West and South hands in the diagramed deal and put yourself in the East seat. You are defending four spades after South has opened one spade and jumped to four spades following a one to four trump response. Your partner has led the diamond four, dummy has played low, and South has played the queen under your king. Now plan your defense.

If you are defending four spades, consider what you know after South has played the diamond queen. The diamond deuce is missing, and it is highly probable that West has it. Therefore, South has another diamond and has unblocked the queen to be able to finesse the ten subsequently.

East may think about shifting to clubs and recognize that the club ten would be the correct card. That is a surrounding or sandwich play that neutralizes dummy's nine if South had A J x or K J x. But as the cards are, any club play is fatal to the defense. South wins, draws, trumps and finesse the dia-

mond ten. The diamond ace is then the 10th trick. If East sees this coming, he will return a diamond at the second trick. That cuts South's line of communication with the dummy. If he attempts to score two diamond tricks immediately, East can ruff. And if South draws trumps, he will have no way to score dummy's remaining diamond winner. Either way, South has four losers and the game fails.

NORTH			
♠ 72	♥ K 63	♦ A 1075	♣ 943
WEST			
♠ 8754	♥ 10642	♦ K 62	♣ 1087
EAST			
♠ 864	♥ A Q 108	♦ K 3	♣ 1087
SOUTH (D)			
♠ A K Q 10983	♥ 7	♦ 8	♣ A 5

East and West were vulnerable. The bidding: South: 1♠, 2♠, 3♠, 4♠. West: 1♥, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥. North: 1NT, 2NT, 3NT, 4NT. East: Pass, Pass, Pass, Pass. West led the diamond four.

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Japan's West Coast Cuisine

By Elizabeth Andoh

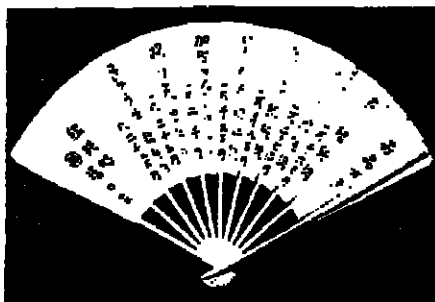
KANAZAWA, Japan — Kanazawa, the cultural and culinary center of Japan's western coast, is a modern metropolis of 430,000 people that is steeped in centuries of history. Although the area is famous for exquisite silk brocades, lacquerware and gold leaf — a result of a legacy of arts and crafts dating back to its origins — given its size and population, it also has one of the greatest concentrations of excellent restaurants of any Japanese city.

The present-day city and environs were known in feudal times as the Kaga region. The local cuisine, known collectively as *Kaga ryori*, includes regional dishes such as *jibana* (literally "bubbling pot," a thick duck and wheat-gluten stew), *gori no tsukuda ni* (tiny soy-simmered river fish) and *kuzu kiri* (opalescent arrowroot noodles served chilled with a dark honeylike dipping sauce). They are found on nearly every restaurant menu in Kanazawa.

All three Kaga delicacies were included in the lunch I enjoyed at Sugi no 1, an elegant, traditional restaurant in the Tera-machi district, which contains hundreds of small temples and shrines.

Food is exquisitely presented here. Our lunch featured a dozen bite-size foods charmingly arranged in a miniature landscape. A slice of fish sausage shaped like a maple leaf was glazed with autumnal vermillion. A white rice sprinkled with *gori no tsukuda ni* (half-inch-long whole river fish stewed in seasoned soy sauce) shared space in a lacquered box with pearly pickled radish (piquant ramp-like garlic bulbs) and verdant chunks of lightly salted cucumber. One of the pleasures of Sugi no 1 is the tableware — an impressive assortment of antique and modern pieces of Kutani china, Oribe pottery and Yamana and Wajima nuri lacquerware. Elegant, full-course dinners that feature regional and seasonal delicacies begin at \$150 a person.

Fumureya, a store that specializes in both fresh and dried wheat gluten, called *ofu*, also operates an adjacent small restaurant that serves lunch and tea with *ofu*



Menu at Fuku Wa Uchi.

snacks. Various set menus are offered from a simple but filling \$18 lunch, to a more elaborate and elegant full-course menu for \$50. I adore *ofu* and found the *soba bento*, which features fresh wheat gluten resembling noodles, particularly to my liking. In addition to the noodles, the set lunch includes a small portion of *jibana* (Fumureya's version of this stew is made with chicken instead of duck, *ofu* and thick black shiitake mushrooms) as well as a taste of sesame-sauced bean curd sheets, or *yuba*, and a bowl of rice garnished with *tsukuda ni fu*, a vegetarian version of the soy-stewed gori fish. Crisp, colorful pickled radishes and eggplant were served separately with hot tea.

Many Americans associate wheat gluten and bean curd with rigidly vegetarian diets. Fortunately, the Japanese approach these two versatile ingredients from a broader and more appetizing perspective. The menu at Hanamura, a restaurant specializing in bean curd dishes, *tofu ryori*, is neither strictly vegetarian nor totally Japanese. Several generous but modestly priced dinners are available in addition to a la carte items. My companion had the mini banquet for \$30 and I tried the *tofu-zukushi* special for \$25.

Our favorite dishes were a steamed turnip carved to resemble a chrysanthemum and stuffed with pungent *miso* (fermented bean paste) and ground chicken, *gomadofu* (a nutty sesame pudding), and *agedashi-dofu* (crispy cubes of fried bean curd moistened in smoky broth and garnished with grated ginger and chopped scallions). As sweets, Hanamura offered several bean curd confections such as *shu kurimu*, modeled after cream puffs but filled with fluffy, sweet tofu instead of whipped cream, for \$1.30, and ice cream for \$3.30 that was tastier than American tofu-based frozen desserts.

Sushi Gemppei, in the Omicho Market, opens at 10:30 A.M. and within an hour a long line has formed outside. This no-frills, 10-seat sushi bar attracts loyal residents and eager visitors with its great fish at reasonable prices. The prices change

according to market conditions, and are posted on the wall. Although this menu is in Japanese, you can figure out the prices by observing the color and number of stripes on the small plates of other customers at the counter.

As I sat down, for example, the woman next to me ordered *ama ebi* (soft, sweet shrimp, on a plate with three red stripes — \$4) and *hirame* (flounder, with one red stripe, one black stripe — \$2.50). I splurged on an order of *chu toro* (a pair of these melt-in-your-mouth fatty tuna sushi were \$8 — one silver stripe), then proceeded to sample several local delicacies in the \$3 category (two red stripes): a sweet-and-crunchy white-shelled clam called *manju gai* (literally "dumpling clam"), ruby red *maji maguro* (baby bonito), and pale *sawara* (speckled mackerel). Delicious *tekka maki* (sliced tuna rolls) and *ume shiso maki* (pickled plum and herb sliced roll) were \$2 and \$1.50 a roll, respectively.

The four dexterous chefs at Sushi Gemppei turn out orders as quickly as you can give them: within 40 minutes of taking our seats, my partner and I had eaten our fill, with an impressive stack of striped plates in front of us. We brought these to the register to be tallied up: \$73 was our total, including a glass of beer and tax.

If you are a fan of Japanese noodles, head for Fuku Wa Uchi, Oni Wa Soto. The unusual name refers to a Japanese holiday, Setsubun, celebrated in early February. On that day dried beans are tossed out the door to chants of "Oni wa soto" ("Out with the ogres"), and tossed into the house while chanting "Fuku wa uchi" ("Bring in good fortune"). The decor is a bit kitschy — male and female ogres decorate the bathroom doors — and vaguely reminiscent of a rustic farmhouse; low tables with thin seat cushions are set on a dais with tatami mats.

After removing your shoes and taking a seat, you'll be presented with a small bowl of matcha tea and candied lotus root and beans; these are on the house. I highly recommend the \$18 wild mushroom and noodle dish called *kinoko nabe udon*. Individual casseroles are brought to your place, where they cook over burners set into the table (a real farmhouse would have an open hearth over which your pot would bubble). Rice and pickles are served a bit later. The rice is added to the broth left in the pot. This makes a very tasty porridge that reminded me of truffle-flecked risotto.

Elizabeth Andoh, an American journalist who lives in Tokyo, wrote this for The New York Times.



In Varanasi, Indian hospitality more than made up for discomforts.

Pleasures and Plagues Of Traveling in India

By Miranda Haines
International Herald Tribune

AGRA, India — I was lying in a hospital bed in the Indian city of Agra with a needle taped into the top of my hand when I heard the voice of a BBC announcer, on a flickering black-and-white television, saying that the plague had broken out in Surat.

My eyes focused on a bowl of fruit, still cool from the icebox, on my bedside table, and I felt, with a wave of relief, that my sister had probably saved my life.

Here in rural India, she had found the seemingly impossible: five-star medical care in an emergency situation. The plague didn't seem such a threat from where I lay. We were three weeks into our trip and nothing had gone quite as planned. We knew that traveling in India wouldn't be a piece of cake. Dirty water, bacteria-ridden food even in expensive hotels, the ubiquitous "Delhi belly" and malaria are constant hazards. But we are already planning another trip. We also caught a different bug — old as the plague but not so curable — the Asian travel bug.

Hospitality abounded from so many people we met. In Varanasi, I had an ear infection that led us to Dr. Tandon's office in the old side of town, above a small pharmacy. "So many tourists come here to look," the doctor confided to us, "but India is just as much a country to feel as to see. Come back tomorrow at the end of surgery so that we can talk more."

I eagerly assented. His good medical advice and help — not to mention the many cups of tea he offered and the time we spent in discussion — made me welcome and comfortable over the next few days.

Back in the muddy streets, flooded with the last of the monsoon rains, I had more encounters with hospitable Indians. Shopping was an adventure in the tiny cobbled alleys, where rats would sniff unabashed among the crowds and bright lights. I took my shoes off, as is the custom, to step onto the white-sheeted floor of a silk shop, and a wet brown mouse ran over my feet. The shop owner laughed at my disgust and told me the small rodents were all "our friends."

It was these "friends" that were spreading the plague in western India, where we were heading next.

But before leaving, we looked up a friend of a friend: a certain Dr. Veer Bhadra Mishra, the Brahmin priest who lives at the Tulsi Ghat, and is also a professor of hydraulic engineering at Banaras University. His Ganga Action Clean-Up, an independent group, is dedicated to cleaning up the Ganges' filthy water. He has a laboratory downstream from where all the city's sewage flows untreated into the river.

"In this world of the flushing toilet, thousands of worshippers bathe every morning in the holy water while the sewage continues to flow into our Ganga," he told us. We couldn't help but notice, too, the bloated corpses floating farther out, vultures perched atop them.

Bhadra invited us to an evening service and dinner at his temple, the Sankat Mochan. While people bowed to touch his feet, he escorted us in, to the intimidating sound of smashing cymbals. Worshippers lighted torches and passed them among themselves, offered food and made a bed for their god — a statue in a crypt. For dinner we sat cross-legged in front of individual small, square wooden tables. "The food is made and blessed in the temple," Bhadra said.

The next day the train that was supposed

to take us to Agra was two hours late. The midday heat on the platform was stifling. We sat on our luggage — the best anti-theft device — and watched, with everyone else, the bustle of passengers coming and going, the insistence of beggars, the hard-working and noisy vendors. A sacred cow charged at a banana cart when the owner had his back turned, and managed to eat a few before he was pushed roughly away.

The small cartons of fruit juice weren't enough to quench my thirst. I began to feel queasy and was relieved to find our coach when finally the huge steam engine screeched to a slow halt.

We sat in the station for at least half an hour while small children came through the coach sweeping away nut shells and the cartons with handmade twig brushes. A sticky night that we passed in the basic second-class sleeper (there was no option) was my sister's last one, as she had to fly home to England from Delhi the next day. I was looking forward to exploring the palaces of Rajasthan for two more weeks.

At five the next morning we hung out the door of the coach as the train chugged slowly through the suburbs of Agra to catch the pink rays the morning sun threw on the towering dome a few kilometers away: the Taj Mahal.

Agra station involved another hectic melee, as we argued over tickets and rickshaws until the armed police held back the mob of shouting men. We finally found someone to take us to the hotel of our choice for our price.

ONLY then did I realize, on the roof garden overlooking the Taj, how exhausted I was from the rattling journey. I was hot but not sweating, a bad sign. In the room I became sick. Four alarming hours later I had lost bodily liquids and couldn't keep any amount down. Hallucinating and delirious, I was scared for the first time.

In my sister's rush to get me to the Amit Jaggi Memorial Hospital we had left without money for the rickshaw man. He apparently was more concerned about me and not only waived the fare but waited an hour in the oppressive sun to take her back to the hotel.

"I am keeping you here," Dr. Jaggi said, noticing the fright in my sister's expression. "And don't worry, our hospital is easily up to European standards. We will have her well and strong enough to enjoy the rest of her stay." My sister was in tears now.

Two days later I got a telephone call from my sister at home — "You know there's plague in India?" We laughed. Not that it was funny, it just seemed distant, and not at all scary compared to the everyday hazards of traveling in India.

HEAR THIS

■ Vanilla ice cream and ginger ale. A plate of hash browns and 13 Cokes. Lots of pickles. Four pieces of burned toast. A chili pepper. Some bacon fat. A shot of brandy. Ingredients for an exotic recipe? No, an unsentimental list of cures for a holiday hangover. But there's only one sure-fire remedy. Dr. Anne Geller of New York hospital's alcoholism treatment center told The New York Times: Don't drink.

Provence's Green-Gold Treasure

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

FONTVIEILLE, France — With less than 1 percent of the global output of olive oil, France is by far the world's smallest producer. But the growers whose groves border this enchanting Provencal village are convinced that their rich-green-gold olive oil — pleasingly astringent, pure of flavor and filled with the heady fragrance of freshly crushed olives — is among the finest in the world.

So for the last four years, seven small mills in the Baux Valley near Saint-Remy-de-Provence have joined forces to carry their message to the public. With mills working almost round the clock from November through January, the Moulinsiers de la Vallée des Baux crush six distinct varieties of olives, producing anywhere from 14,000 to 150,000 liters of extra-virgin and virgin oil annually per mill. (In the global view this is peanuts: Of the world's 800 million olive trees only 3.5 million grow in France. Spain tops the list, with 32 percent of the crop, with Italy a close second at 30 percent.)

Size may be an asset to the Baux Valley growers, since traditional methods, small mills, personal care, and age-old olive trees (which can easily live to be 500 years old) help to produce a highly distinguished oil that can be rich, creamy, fragrant, nonhitter, sometimes even lemony, all at once. Compared to even the finest of

its Spanish and Italian counterparts, the Baux region's oil is fruity without being cloying, astringent with no touch of bitterness, full but not heavy, with an always distinctive flavor of freshly crushed olives.

Yet even among those seven mills, there are characteristics that distinguish one from another. This year, to help consumers learn about the region's oil, as well as the characteristics of each mill, the growers have created miniature tasting packages — seven tiny bottles each holding about four tablespoons of freshly pressed oil. This way, tasters can easily conduct blind tastings — preferably with just a small cube of bread to soak up each flavorful oil — and come up with a personal favorite.

WHAT'S more, the samplings allow one to taste the freshest first-pressed oil, or *huile nouvelle*, oil that is slightly limpid and cloudy, often more pronounced in flavor, almost volatile. The same oil, once allowed to settle naturally in huge vats over a period of several weeks, will be come clearer, somewhat less awkward, rounder, less fleeting and less capricious.

For some fans — myself included — there is nothing more lively, fresh, and fragrant than a cloudy bottle of newly pressed winter oil. I love its sharp, fresh, ephemeral qualities and for the first month or so use it less in cooking and more as a condiment — drizzled on toast that has been scrubbed with tomato or garlic, tossed in a green salad with nothing

more than a sprinkling of salt, poured over the new season's crop of freshly cooked chick-peas, showered over steaming baby potatoes crushed with a fork. Later, as the oil matures, I begin to use it for sautéing (when the heat really brings out its pure olive flavor and aroma), for a heady garlic mayonnaise, or aioli, or even for a special batch of deep-fried potatoes.

Taste this year's newly pressed oil from the superlative Moulin Jean-Marie Cornille in Maussane-les-Alpilles and your first sensation is one of purity and roundness, followed by a pleasant astringency at the back of the throat. It is almost like a wine that is still fermenting, almost fizzy, making you aware of dealing with a living, changing product.

The oil from the Moulin des Barres, also in Maussane, tastes almost like a highly subtle lemon vinaigrette, with a fresh green but not grassy aftertaste. The 1994 crop from the Moulin Perignon & Albert in Aureille is almost a combination of the other two, extremely round, very soft, very olive.

But connoisseurship is a personal affair, so why not just taste for yourself? To order a *coffret* trial, a sampler of all seven oils, priced at 95 francs (about \$17.50), including delivery within France, contact Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie du Pays d'Arles, Allée de la Nouvelle Ecuse, 13643 Arles Cedex; tel: 90.94.02.00. Oil can also be purchased directly at the mills. Prices range from 66 to 76 francs a liter.

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Nobody's Fool
Directed by Robert Benton,
U.S.
You hear Paul Newman before you see him in "No-
body's Fool," yelling affec-
tionately to Jessica Tandy as
his landlady, Miss Beryl.
With the raspiest of his voice
has taken on recently and the
irreverence that has always
been part of his charm, he
shouts: "Still alive in there,
old lady! Didn't die in your
sleep, did you?" Then he sits
in his living room chair to
put on his work boots, which
isn't easy. He has a bad knee
and an occasional off-kilter
bookish job working construc-
tion for Carl Roebuck (Bruce
Willis), who owes him money.
He lives alone in the
apartment above Miss Ber-
yl's, and at 60 he is running
out of time for his life to turn
out all right. Newman's per-
formance as Donald Sulli-
van, who is called Sully by

Street Fighter
Directed by Steven E. de
Souza, U.S.

If Jean-Claude Van
Damme's next action-ad-
venture film, "Street Fight-
er," is remembered for any-
thing, it will probably be for
Raul Julia's flaming portray-
al of General M. Bison, an
international villain of Hil-
lerian proportions. An insane
warlord in the make-believe
South Asian country of Sha-
daloo, Bison is hell-bent on
world conquest. He has tricks
up his sleeve that are not de-
ployed until the movie's cha-
otic final action sequence.
This role was Julia's final
screen performance, and the
actor gives it his all. Julia's
nostril-flaring campiness be-
fits a film that is the latest
action-adventure movie to be
spun off from a video game.
The movie is fast and jerky,
with no narrative continuity
and lots of candy-colored py-
rotechnics. If Steven E. de
Souza, who wrote and direct-
ed "Street Fighter," has cap-
tured the look and mood of a
video game, the film is an
otherwise dreary, overstuffed
hodgepodge of poorly edited
martial arts sequences and
often unintelligible dialogue.
(Stephen Holden, NYT)



Robert Mammone, as a victim, in "Street Fighter."

سكيا من الامم

Hunting Sardinia's Elusive 'Porcu Abbru'

By Ken Shulman

PATTADA, Sardinia — The sun was just beginning to lurch over the toothy ridge. We gathered in the milky dawn outside the ramshackle shepherd's hut in the valley beneath Pattada, five men with rifles, and one, myself, with a Nikon.

Tommaso, Piero, Antonio, Gavino, Peppinieddu. These were the hunters. Half a dozen dogs — bloodhounds, beagles and setters — on tethers barked and twisted in anticipation. They too knew that this was the first day of hunting season.

I am not nor have never been a hunter. I do consume most animal products and have nothing in principle against the killing of animals. I once worked for a year in a Boston wholesale meat market, sparring like Rocky with the hanging quarters of beef. Yet I had never been party to the kill.

I had been invited by Tommaso, my brother-in-law, to tag along. Like most Sardinians, my day's companions were considerably shorter and stockier than I am. And like most Sardinians, they were silent. It was hard to wrest a smile from any of them.

"Olives" shouted Antonio, the proprietor of the shack, as he passed around a plate of grappa-soaked grapes. He was

the one jolly exception in the group. "Olives for the hunt."

Hunting in Sardinia is a social rite that goes back to the earliest inhabitants of the island. Today, only Sardinians and residents of Sardinia are permitted to hunt on the island. The hunting tradition is passed down from father to son. Of my five companions, four were exposed to the sport by their fathers. Three carried their dead fathers' rifles.

As it was December, the day's prey was the *porcu abbru*, known in the rest of Italy as *cinghiale* and in English-speaking countries as wild boar. Smaller than its Continental counterpart, the Sardinian wild boar rarely exceeds 90 kilograms (200 pounds). Yet like much of the fauna on this still untamed island, it is more savage. The *porcu abbru* usually covers 40 kilometers a night while foraging for food, uprooting shrubs, trees and crops. It is all muscle, as fast as a dog in open terrain and faster through the brush. It looks, and acts, like a hairy pig on steroids. Unlike a deer, it does not inspire fondness or pity. And the hills in northern Sardinia are full of them.

The morning was magnificent. And the terrain was rugged. In half an hour, we had climbed 900 meters. Four riflemen were posted at 30-meter intervals along a ridge. Antonio was circling beneath with the dogs, making as much noise as possible to rouse a nocturnal

boar from its daytime slumber and drive him toward us.

In the distance, still out of sight, the dogs began to bay wildly. The noise grew louder and louder. Tommaso motioned for me to still. I could hear my heart pounding, as I waited for the boar to come crashing through the bushes. Tommaso released the safety on his double-barreled shotgun. I wondered whether I would flinch when he fired, whether the sight of the boar with its chest or head flattened by a single shot would disgust or intrigue me.

AND then the noise grew softer and softer. Tommaso lowered his rifle and put on the safety. "They must have passed behind the ridge," he said, motioning for the group to move.

We covered 15 kilometers, climbing gingerly over spindly dry stone walls strung with barbed wire, bulging through gnarled, grasping vines and thorns. We saw the telltale marks — frenetic, six-inch incisions in the ground, like Reggie Jackson digging in at the batter's box — of several wild boars. But nothing more.

At one point I saw Tommaso's brother Piero, gliding through the waist-high grass, his rifle balanced across his shoulders, the two setters at his heels like Mercury's wings. It was a vision. This was his element, I thought. He would never be so free.

At 2 we returned to Antonio's shed for lunch. The men told hunting stories, half in Italian, half in their native tongue. They told how they usually strap their wild boars across the hoods of their cars and drive through the town, stopping at every bar for a drink. They told about the time one of their companions had killed two boars with one squeeze of the trigger. With what they spend on rifles, ammunition and the morass of yearly fees and licenses, they could keep an entire soccer team in meat.

"I hunt because I like to be out of doors, and because I like to see the wild animals," Tommaso told me on the way back to town. But I don't think even Tommaso could articulate the atavistic instinct that governs his Sundays. Or that he or any of his friends would feel the need to.

Ken Shulman is an American writer based in Italy.



Touring the World Inside a Chinese Park

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

SHENZHEN, China — East is east, and west is west, and never the twain shall meet unless it's in an amusement park in southern China. Here Mount Fuji rises within a short walk from the Grand Canyon, the Eiffel Tower peers over Cambodia's Angkor Wat, and a typical Southeast Asian waterside village can be seen from St. Mark's Square in Venice.

Window of the World, where 118 famous world sites are reproduced — all in miniature — has drawn more than 2 million visitors in its first six months.

Most Chinese people who migrate to Shenzhen go for work and to make money. Thus, this export center of more than 2 million people has cash to spare and many workers who are ready to spend it. And so amid the high-rise apartment buildings and low-cost factories in this Chinese boom town, three Chinese companies decided to sink about \$60 million into a park that would take visitors around the world in 80 minutes.

Window of the World lies alongside a busy car and truck route that leads out of Shenzhen north to Guangzhou. The park looms smaller than life, like a strange mirage after miles of construction sites and shabby buildings. At its northern edge, a replica of the Golden Gate Bridge arches over the roadway.

Admission costs about \$20 — four or five days' salary for most workers in Shenzhen.

Inside the gate lies the World Square, an open rotunda with Greek columns, Egyptian hieroglyphs and famous gates from around the world. Small disks have been laid into the pavement measuring the distances from Shenzhen to other big cities and capitals. Standing here, one can imagine that all roads lead to Shenzhen.

From the World Square, I ducked through Iraq's Ishtar Gate, barely glancing at the glass pyramid of the Louvre to the left. On the other side, just past the monorail, stands a huge replica of the Eiffel Tower, 108 feet (33 meters) high, according to the guide map. It dominates the center of the park and looks

pretty much like the real thing, with an elevator ferrying visitors up the side.

The designers of the park must have been Francophiles, because beyond the Eiffel Tower stood a convincing replica of the Arc de Triomphe, built large enough for a small truck to drive through it.

THE scale of the reproductions in the park varies widely, and so just downstairs from the Arc de Triomphe, one can gaze out over Versailles, which barely rises to the knee. Behind Versailles stands St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, which comes up just above the waist. This view is a favorite photo spot for tourists.

Wandering through other famous sites of Europe, I suddenly became confused. I had wound past the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Cologne Cathedral, walked down a flight of stairs with St. Mark's of Venice on my left and the windmills of Holland on my right. In the distance, I could see the real rice paddies of southern China. But I had lost my place on the map.

Luckily, a sign pointed me in the direction of America. Along the way, I

had to step lively to avoid the tiny tourist cart shaped like a choo-choo train. On one side, the Colosseum of Rome could be seen in the foreground and the Pyramids behind that. On the other side, I could see Africa: a brightly painted Ndebele house, a large sculptured elephant that people were climbing and a panoramic view of toy-size animals at a Kenyan safari park.

Beyond this lay the New World. Niagara Falls was 80 meters wide and 10 meters high, another favorite photo opportunity. And for those seeking the truly unique photo opportunity, Window of the World offers the chance to pose with lower Manhattan, the Washington Monument, the U.S. Capitol and Mount Rushmore all in one picture. You can even see the tip of the Eiffel Tower in the background and a little bit of the Grand Canyon.

No tourist site would be complete without a shopping opportunity, and a reproduction of a quaint European cobblestone street has shops with some of the toys Shenzhen exports around the world, including Disney characters.

THE ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA
Vienna
Kunsthof, tel: (1) 52177404, open daily. To Jan. 29: "Agyptomanie: Agypten und das Abendland."

BRUSSLS
Musée d'Art Ancien, tel: (2) 508-32-11, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "De Voet a David."

BRITAIN
Edinburgh
Scottish National Portrait Gallery, tel: (31) 332-2266, open daily To Feb. 26: "Sir James Gunn."

DENMARK
Humblebeak
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, tel: 42-19-07-19, open daily. To Feb. 5: "Toulose-Lautrec and Paris."

FRANCE
Paris
Centre Georges Pompidou, tel: (1) 44-75-40-85, closed Tuesdays. To Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters."

GERMANY
Berlin
Martin-Gropius-Bau, tel: (30) 254-85-738, closed Mondays. To Feb. 5: "Der Riss im Raum."

HAMBURG
Hamburger Kunsthalle, tel: (40) 24-86-26-12, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "Munch und Deutschland."

IRELAND
Dublin
Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, tel: (1) 872-2182, closed. To Jan. 22: "Herm Hayden, 1883-1970."

ISRAEL
Tel Aviv
Tel Aviv Museum of Art, tel: (3) 696-1297, open daily. To March 18: "Keith Haring."

ITALY
Genoa
Palazzo Ducale, tel: (10) 591-106, closed Mondays. To Jan. 29: "Marc Chagall e il suo Mondo tra Vitebsk e Parigi."

JAPAN
Tokyo
Museum of Contemporary Art, tel: (3) 3445-0651, open daily. To Feb. 19: "Space, Time and Memory: Photography and Beyond in Japan."

LUXEMBOURG
Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, tel: 47-93-30-214, closed Mondays. To Jan. 15: "J. Kutter. A retrospective."

NETHERLANDS
Amsterdam
Van Gogh Museum, tel: (20) 570-5252, open daily. To Jan. 15: "Odon Redon: Prince of Dreams."

NORWAY
Oslo
Nasjonalgalleriet, tel: (22) 22-20-04, closed Saturdays and Sundays. To Jan. 15: "Tradition and Innovation: Norwegian Art at the Turn of the Century."

POLAND
Warsaw
The National Museum, tel: (2) 621-1031, closed Mondays. To Feb. 19: "The Collection of Boleslaw and Lina Nawrocki."

SPAIN
Madrid
Fundación Juan March, tel: (1) 435-42-40, open daily. To Jan. 22: "Tesoros del Arte Japonés: Periodo Edo 1615-1868."

SWEDEN
Stockholm
Nationalmuseum, tel: (8) 666-42-50, closed Mondays. To Jan. 8: "Goya."

SWITZERLAND
Geneva
Musée Rath, tel: (22) 310-52-70, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "L'Esprit d'une Collection: De Caspar David Friedrich a Ferdinand Hodler."

UNITED STATES
Atlanta
High Museum of Art, tel: (404) 577-6940, closed Sundays. To Jan. 14: "Workers, An Archaeology of the Industrial Age: Photographs by Sebastião Salgado."

Houston
The Menil Collection, tel: (713) 525-8400, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To Jan. 9: "Colonial Masterpieces from Bolivia."

New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3951, closed Mondays. To Jan. 8: "Origins of Impressionism." Also, to March 28: "Greek Gold: Jewelry of the Classical World."

San Francisco
M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, tel: (415) 863-3330, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To March 5: "A Gift to America: Masterpieces of European Painting from the Samuel H. Kress Collection."

Washington
National Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 737-4215, open daily. To March 19: "Italian Renaissance Architecture."

Some museums may be closed on holidays. Check before going.



Chagall's "Lovers in Blue," shown in Genoa.

Fundación Thyssen-Bornemisza, tel: (91) 369-0151, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "El Siglo de Oro del Paisaje Holandés."

OCTOBER 1995

17 TUESDAY

18 WEDNESDAY

The New France: Implications for Global Business

— Paris —

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The International Herald Tribune and Institut Français des Relations Internationales are convening a major new conference on the theme, "The New France: Implications for Global Business." This prestigious event will assess the new developments in France following the presidential elections and will feature key members of the new government in addition to major industrialists and finance and government leaders from around the world.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Spain	Pes. 48,000	26,000
Sweden (Swedish)	S.Kr. 55,000	27,500
Sweden (Danish)	S.Kr. 3,100	1,700
Switzerland	S.Fr. 3,500	1,900
Switzerland	S.Fr. 610	335
Rest of Europe, except C.E.	S. 485	265
C.E. North Africa, Former French Africa	S. 630	345
Middle East, Gulf States	S. 780	430
Central and Latin America, South Africa	S. 900	495
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U.S. Cites Progress With North Korea

Still, No Sign of 'When or If' American Pilot Might Be Freed

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. diplomat who is in North Korea seeking the release of a captured U.S. Army helicopter pilot "made good progress" Thursday, but "it is still impossible to predict when and if" the flyer will be freed, the State Department said.

The department's spokesman, Mike McCurry, said "we assume" that the diplomat, Thomas Hubbard, would resume discussions on Friday, and said Washington was encouraged that Mr. Hubbard, a deputy secretary of state, met with Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok Ju, a higher-level official than he saw Wednesday.

But Mr. McCurry and other officials refused to go into detail, saying the talks about Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall are in a crucial phase, nearly two weeks after his helicopter strayed across the Demilitarized Zone and went down inside North Korea. Warrant Officer David Hilemon was killed in the incident and his body returned last week.

North Korea has not said publicly what it wants as the price of Mr. Hall's release, and it is still unclear whether the Foreign Ministry officials Mr. Hubbard is talking to want the same thing as the military authorities who captured Mr. Hall.

U.S. officials spent much of Thursday analyzing the text of a purported confession and appeal for leniency that North Korea said Mr. Hall signed on Christmas Day. The statement says that the North shot the helicopter down.

Pentagon officials and some independent analysts said many of the personal details about Mr. Hall in the purported statement are correct, and they said the text appears to exonerate Mr. Hall of North Korean charges that he entered the North intentionally on a spying mission.

In the statement, Mr. Hall acknowledges "our intrusion deep into the territorial airspace

of North Korea," and calls the action "a grave infringement upon the sovereignty" of North Korea and "a flagrant violation of international law."

But the key paragraph says the helicopter crew's mission was to fly this route: "Chuncheon-northeast dam-CP Choke-Abeam 84-west-Abeam 32 back to Chuncheon." All those landmarks and checkpoints are inside South Korea, Pentagon sources said, and therefore the crew's mission was specifically not to enter North Korea. Mr. Hall and Mr. Hilemon may have deviated from the mission, as Mr. Hall's purported statement said, but they apparently were not assigned to enter North Korea.

The text thus appears to confirm repeated statements by President Bill Clinton and other U.S. officials that the incursion into North Korea was nothing more than a navigational error, not a planned crossing that would justify further detention of Mr. Hall.

"They just exonerated these guys," said a former official with long experience in U.S. air operations in Korea.

The purported statement by Mr. Hall provided the first detailed account of what happened to the ill-fated helicopter.

"We flew along the planned route as far as Wontong, where we deviated from the route and flew across the Military Demarcation Line," it said. "And then we illegally intruded deep into the territorial airspace of North Korea, and were shot down." The statement called the incident an act of "self-defense" by the North Korean Army.

This phrasing acknowledges that the crossing was illegal and that the North Koreans were within their rights to fire on the helicopter, but again it does not indicate that the "deviation" was assigned or deliberate.

"When the helicopter was shot, it caught fire and crashed into a steep mountain," the statement said. "Hilemon was thrown from the aircraft and died on the spot."

EUROPE: A Shift in Leadership

Continued from Page 1

France's EU allies, and neither has established as smooth a relationship with Mr. Kohl as President François Mitterrand, who will step down this spring. Mr. Kohl is to visit Mr. Balladur at his winter holiday home at Chamonix on Thursday.

Given the electoral constraint, the French government has limited its EU presidency agenda mainly to preparatory work for crucial decisions the Union will have to make in coming years.

At the top of the list is greater cooperation on foreign and security policy. Alain Lamassoure, the minister for European affairs, said an EU review conference in 1996 must do for security what the 1992 Maastricht treaty did for monetary cooperation by setting criteria for a single EU currency.

But recent French initiatives like a joint air force unit with Britain and satellite work with Germany have been bilateral rather than EU-oriented, and a French-led report due this spring that is intended to start the 1996 debate is expected to be cautious and stress national

control over policy, EU officials said.

"We need to find a consensus on the problems before the solutions," said Yves-Thibault de Silguy, Mr. Balladur's adviser on European affairs and nominee to become EU economics commissioner in late January.

France will press its EU partners to increase aid and attention to the Mediterranean, officials said. The security risk of instability in North Africa was brought home dramatically by the hijacking of an Air France jet in Algiers last week, and the policy of increasing aid to the South as the Union opens up to the East was one of the few concrete results of Franco-German cooperation during the past six months.

But even here, French work will consist mainly of preparing for a conference between EU and Mediterranean states in Barcelona under the Spanish EU presidency in October.

France also plans a major push on the culture front that risks arousing opposition not only in Hollywood but in much of European industry.

Culture Minister Jacques Toubon urged the outgoing commission in Brussels last week to go ahead with a proposal to extend and toughen Europe's quotas on television programming when the executive agency meets next Wednesday.

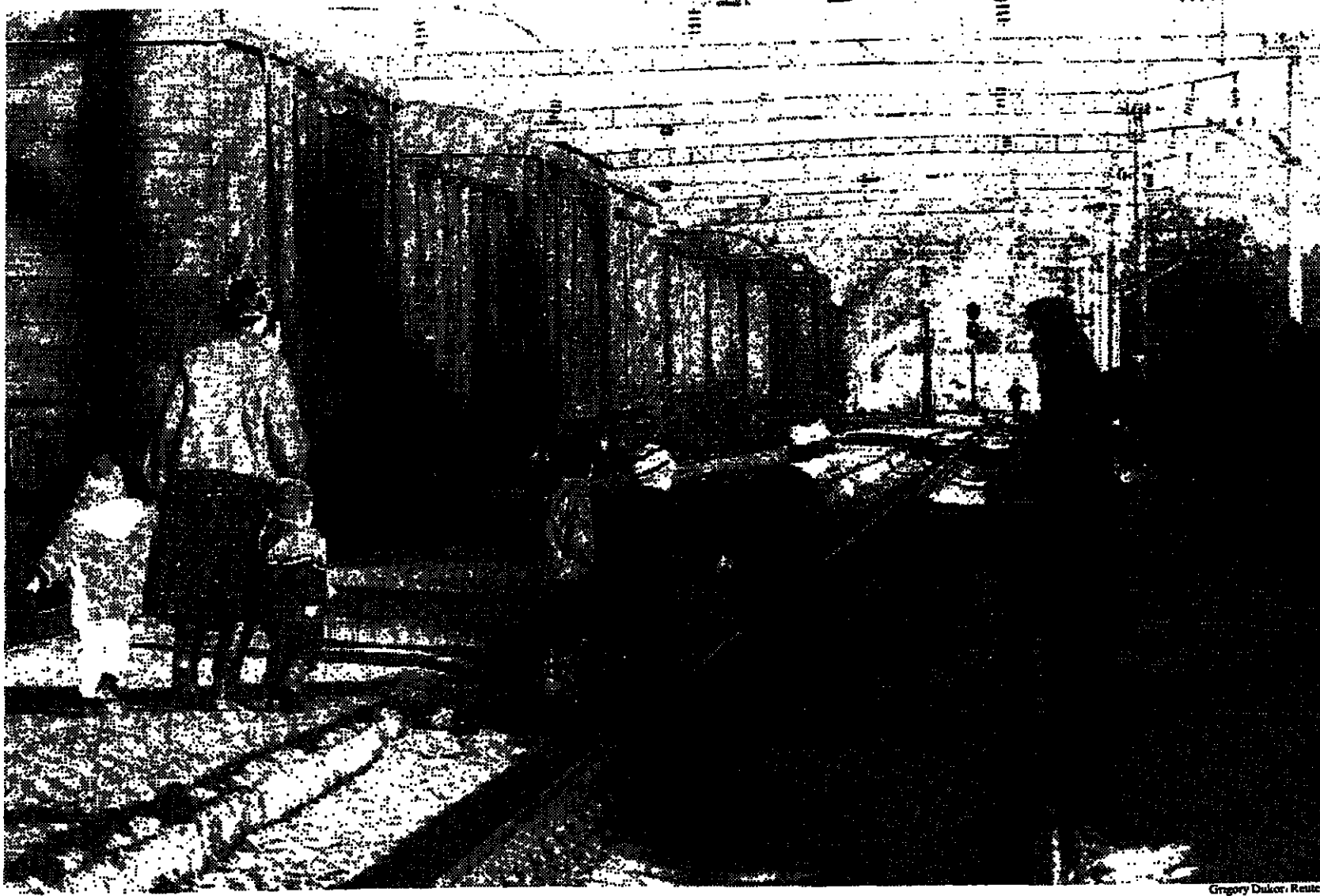
The commission has delayed action for nearly two months because of a deadlock inside the agency and strong opposition to the proposal from European broadcasters and program providers, who fear it will stifle investment and much-needed links with the U.S. entertainment industry. But France fears that failure to act before the commission is replaced on Jan. 25 will kill any chance of passing legislation during its presidency.

U.S. Repatriating 4,000 Haitians

Reuters

WASHINGTON — The United States told more than 4,000 Haitian refugees at its military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on Thursday that they would have to return home, the State Department said.

The refugees fled Haiti by boat last year to escape its military junta. U.S. vessels took them to Guantanamo Bay.



Refugees from Russian bombing of Grozny at a train station Thursday at Nazran, in neighboring Ingushetia, where they are living in railcars.

Outside Moscow, a Hawkish Bent Reigns

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

PODOLSK, Russia — Russians do not tie yellow ribbons to trees to signal their support for their soldiers fighting in the rebellious region called Chechnya. They do not put bumper stickers on their cars to protest the bombing there.

But here, only 50 kilometers (30 miles) from Moscow, support for the use of force seems greater than in the capital, where less than 30 percent of people surveyed favored military action.

"We should have gone in and restored order there a long time ago," said Vitali Repyakh, 57, a surgeon and head of the local blood bank. The doctor's son-in-law is a medic for Interior Ministry troops and at risk of being sent to Chechnya.

"I don't want my daughter's husband to go, and I feel sorry for the soldiers who are there," he said. "But Chechnya is a criminal republic. I was glad when they sent in the troops."

In Podolsk, even those who vehemently support the war — the doctor, a factory worker, a truck driver — have some-

thing in common with neighbors who oppose it. It is a deep cynicism about the leaders who made the decision to attack Chechnya, skepticism about the news coverage, and pessimism about how the offensive will turn out.

"Yeltsin is three years too late," Dr. Repyakh said. "He has to be careful not to go too far, now. If we get too involved, it will be a second Afghanistan and we'll be run out of there."

Even though he said he supported President Boris N. Yeltsin's decision, he was doubtful about Mr. Yeltsin's explanation that minor nose surgery had prevented him from appearing in public for weeks after ordering the offensive.

"As a surgeon, I know that someone after this kind of operation can be back at work after two days," the doctor said. "I think he just wanted to hang back and wait and see."

Slipping coffee at a café, two security guards expressed contempt for Mr. Yeltsin's leadership and said they sympathized with insubordinate soldiers who have refused to carry out their mission in Chechnya.

"I am not shocked, I understand them," said one, a 42-year-old retired police officer who would only give his first name, Mikhail.

"It shows there is some humanity in our armed services," he said. He added that while the dissenters would have been court-martialed in Soviet times, he doubted that they could be prosecuted.

"The use of the army in this situation is not based on any law," Mikhail added. "No matter how vague our laws are now, the constitution is supposed to be the last word."

He seemed to be referring to an article in the constitution that prohibits the armed forces from being used to limit human rights. But the constitution also grants virtually unlimited discretion to the president, and in any case the country does not have a functioning constitutional court to weigh the issue.

"Of course Chechnya should be part of Russia and should live in accordance with our laws," said Svetlana Dmitriyeva, 35, a nurse. "But war is always bad. The politicians will settle the problem, but the people here will suffer."

POLL: America Recovers Economic Self-Confidence as Japan Loses Faith

Continued from Page 1

War II. A slight majority said there was no danger that Japan would become too aggressive if it increased its military power in order to take part in more international peacekeeping operations.

The alliance's future is certain to be a major theme in the Jan. 11 meeting in Washington between President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama. State Department officials have made clear that they hope to steer the discussions away from the endless trade disputes that usually

dominate such sessions and to focus on other aspects of the relationship that, in the words of one senior department official, "have clearly been neglected in recent years."

But at a time of continuing political turmoil in Japan, there is little optimism in Washington that much new thinking will emerge in those talks.

The change may fit the national mood. For the first time since the question was first asked in 1985, a majority of Americans — 51 percent — judged the overall outcome of trade with Japan to be good for

the United States. That view comes despite the fact that Washington is likely to have a record trade deficit with Tokyo this year. But it might reflect a growing sense among Americans that they have less to fear from Japanese industry, which has been made less competitive by a strengthened yen.

In the poll, 67 percent of Americans said that, dollar for dollar, American cars are a better or equal value than Japan's. In 1985, at Detroit's low point in manufacturing quality, only half of Americans felt that way.

Detroit's rise has left the Jap-

anese unimpressed: 83 percent said that Japanese cars were a better value, and only 17 percent said the American competition was better or equal.

Less than eight months before the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, only 34 percent of Japanese said they personally held the attacks against the United States, down from half of all Japanese asked the same question in 1991. But 53 percent said they believed most of their countrymen harbor such resentments. A similar pattern existed in the United States.

RWANDA: Despite Signs That Normal Life Is Returning, the Danger of More Violence Lurks

Continued from Page 1

ethnic hatreds. It is not even entirely accurate to say that the Hutu and Tutsi are different ethnic groups — they speak the same language, worship the same God, share many of the same cultural traditions.

Even the physical characteristics that once distinguished them — the Tutsi, tall and thin; the Hutu, short and broad — have disappeared for vast segments of the population after generations of intermarriage.

"Bad leaders," said Goretti Uwamariya, 29, when asked

what had caused the war. It is the answer one hears over and over again in Rwanda, from peasants in remote villages to intellectuals, and it underscores the fact that the Hutu and the Tutsi lived together, friction contained, until politicians set them against each other.

Mrs. Uwamariya, a Tutsi, was at church on the Sunday before Christmas, worshipping with Hutu and Tutsi at a Mass in which her family members who were killed by Hutu mobs in the April violence were remembered: her husband, a brother, a sister and several aunts and uncles.

Mrs. Uwamariya said it would not be easy to live with the Hutu again, but it would be necessary to try because there really was no other choice. In October, she gave birth to a daughter.

"I'll teach her to love everybody regardless of their tribe or their region," she said. "Otherwise she will become like the killers of her father."

It is hard to pin a political label on Rwanda at the moment.

It falls short of being a democracy, since no one was elected to any position, and the dominant institution is the Tutsi-led Rwanda Patriotic Front, which won the war and is in effect the ruling political party.

The most important political leader is Major General Paul Kagame, who was commander of the rebel army and is now vice president and defense minister.

But it would be unfair to call the government a military dictatorship. The army is one of the most disciplined in Africa. At roadblocks, soldiers, though dressed in rumpled uniforms, are polite and sober and do not demand money. On the Rwandan side of the border with Zaire, the officials are inefficient, bureaucratic, pleasant and honest. On the Zairian side they are inefficient, bureaucratic, nasty and corrupt.

Rwanda has a civilian president and prime minister, and while they do not have General Kagame's influence over the country's political direction, they are more than figureheads.

The cabinet is made up mostly of civilians, and two key posts, interior and justice, are held by Hutu. Most of the 11 provincial governors are civilians, and in Cyangugu, the third-largest province, the governor recently named a Hutu human-rights campaigner, Theobald Rutunza, to the top spot.

I'm not sure how much power I have," Mr. Rutunza said in a recent interview in his barren office. But he is testing it daily as he investigates human rights abuses by the army and urges commanders not to arrest someone without sufficient evidence.

Throughout the country, about 15,000 people have been seized on the street or hauled from their homes because someone has accused them of

RUSSIA: Assault Planned

Continued from Page 1

publicly oppose the Chechen intervention. Despite widespread rumors, he has yet to be fired.

On Thursday, he courted that risk again with an appearance at the Burdako military hospital in Moscow.

General Gromov, who had told Russian and Western reporters about his visit but not the hospital staff, swept into the trauma ward in full uniform, surrounded by television cameras, and visited 10 soldiers who had been wounded in the Chechen fighting.

"I come to congratulate you and to remind you that you are not forgotten," he told five soldiers lying in one room.

Yelena G. Bonner, widow of the dissident Andrei D. Sakharov, resigned in protest Thursday from the presidential human rights commission. Calling the conflict a "return to totalitarianism," she said: "A democratic country cannot keep by armed force an ethnic group that does not want to remain in it."

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Russian troops continued artillery attacks on outlying regions, where there was heavy fighting. The Russians say most of the fighting was started by Chechen forces attempting to break through their lines.

—ALESSANDRA STANLEY

In Europe, 'Concern' On Chechen Fighting

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — In a sign of increasing European unease about the fighting in Chechnya, Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel of Germany told Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozirev of Russia on Thursday of his "great concern" over the fighting.

France, meanwhile, announced plans for joint diplomatic action with its European partners over the conflict.

Mr. Kinkel and Mr. Kozirev discussed the situation in the separatist republic by telephone for more than an hour. They agreed that a political solution should be found "as soon as possible," the German Foreign Ministry said.

Mr. Kozirev also said that European Union ambassadors in Moscow would be invited to the Foreign Ministry this week for talks on the Chechnya situation. He previously met with EU ambassadors on Dec. 21.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government, along with the United States and other European governments, has said repeatedly that the Chechnya conflict is an internal affair for Russia.

But with images of destruction in Chechnya televised daily, public pressure has been growing in Germany for a condemnation of the violence.

Bonn is eager to preserve close ties with the Kremlin and the friendly personal relationship between President Boris N. Yeltsin and Chancellor Kohl. But there is increasing pressure on the government to break its silence on the fighting.

On Wednesday, Mr. Kozirev warned that his government was prepared to use "as much force as necessary" to keep the separatist republic from leaving Russia.

In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry deplored the intensified fighting, "contrary to what had been announced" by Moscow.

"We understand that fighting has intensified, in particular bombing that is not sparing civilian lives," said a ministry spokeswoman, Catherine Colonna. "The military action is continuing. We deplore that and we continue to think that only negotiations will resolve the crisis on a lasting basis."

Mr. Yeltsin promised on Tuesday that civilian areas would no longer be the targets of bombs. But intensive bombing and shelling of the Chechen capital, Grozny, has since resumed.

"We plan a number of diplomatic steps with our partners in the European Union," Ms. Colonna said, giving no details.

"We have made constant appeals to the Russian authorities to this effect," she added. "We renew these demands. The Russian authorities have a responsibility to spare civilian lives."

(AFP, AP, Reuters)

Solitary Jailing Of Israeli Decried

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Mordechai Vanunu, a technician who revealed the extent of Israel's nuclear program, has spent eight years in solitary confinement and should be allowed to mix with other prisoners, a lawmaker who visited him said Thursday.

Dedi Zucker, head of Parliament's law committee, said security officials had imposed "vindictive conditions" for isolating Mr. Vanunu for so long, and called for changes in regulations that would allow judicial review of the terms of solitary confinement.

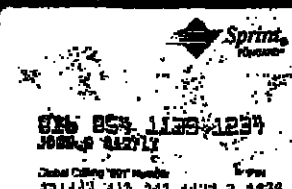
Mr. Vanunu smuggled photographs out of the Dimona nuclear reactor in 1986, confirming foreign intelligence assessments about the extent of Israel's nuclear weapons program. The Sunday Times of London published the material and estimated Israel had more than 100 nuclear bombs. Mr. Vanunu was sentenced to 18 years for treason.

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS
IN ITALY AND THE WORLD

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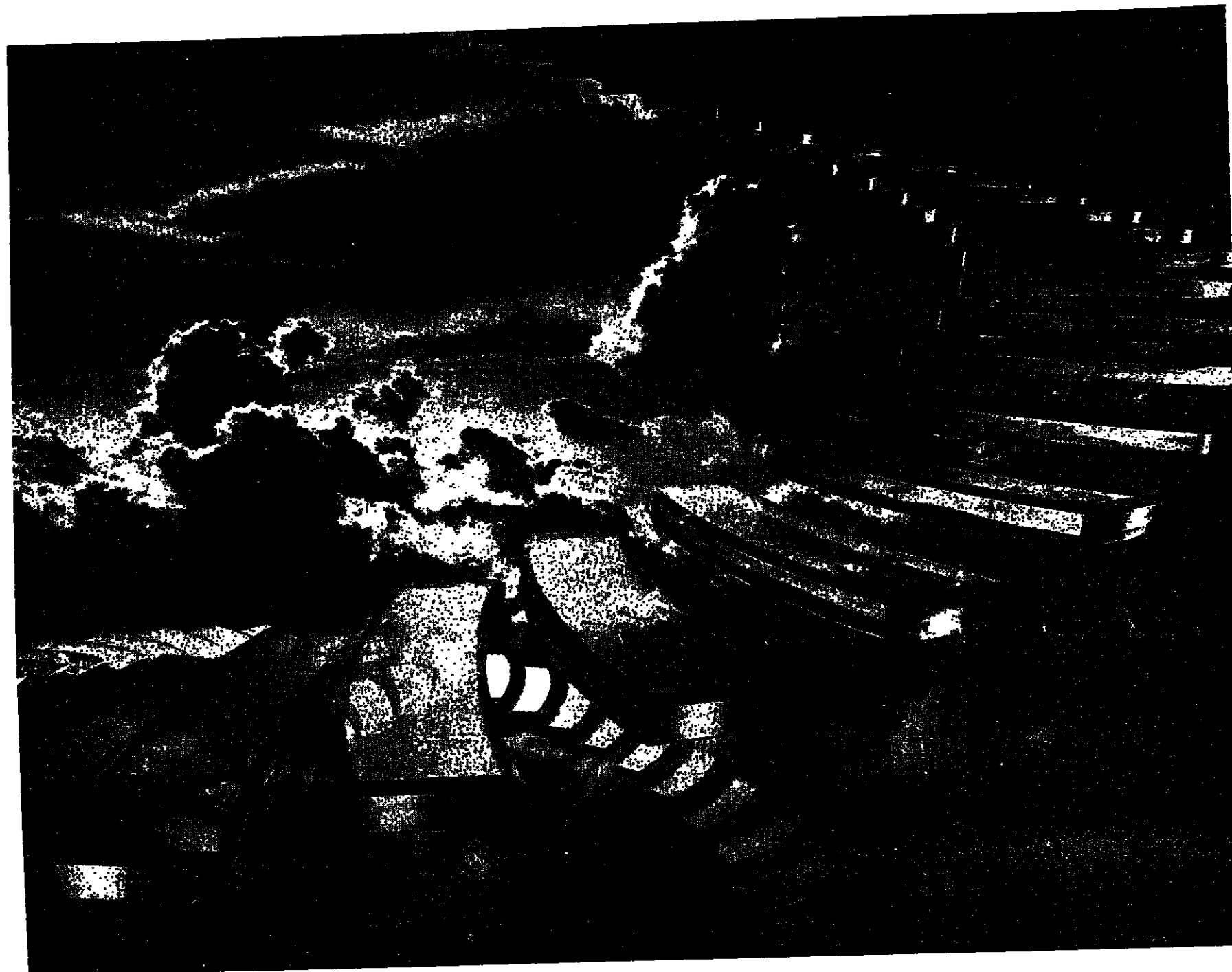
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GOM / REVENUES	56	52.7
OPERATING PROFIT (BILL)	3.136	3.796
NET FINANCIAL CHARGES / REVENUES (%)	5.3	9.8
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Lyonnais Will Sell Its Cinemas

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Crédit Lyonnais, the financially troubled government-owned bank, said Thursday it was seeking a buyer for its European chain of MGM movie theaters.

The sale could fetch as much as \$1 billion to 1.2 billion French francs (\$184 million to \$221 million), according to French press reports.

Crédit Lyonnais has announced this month the disposal of stakes in the parent of Adidas AG, the German sports-wear maker, and Banca Lombarda di Italy. The bank is also seeking a buyer for its profitable Brazilian unit, Banco Frances & Brasileiro.

When Crédit Lyonnais posted a 1993 loss of 6.9 billion francs earlier this year, it said it would sell assets valued at 20

1990 1984 1990 1984 1990 1984

1990 1984 1990 1984 1990 1984

Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	414.47	414.81	-0.08
Brussels	Stock Index	7,248.64	7,270.27	-0.30
Frankfurt	DAX	2,077.03	2,109.01	-1.52
Frankfurt	FAZ	789.17	789.87	-1.10
Helsinki	HEX	1,846.58	1,846.05	+0.03
London	Financial Times 30	2,360.20	2,392.00	-0.92
London	FTSE 100	3,095.60	3,095.80	-0.98
Madrid	General Index	279.54	283.71	-1.33
Milan	MIBTEL	10008	10104	-1.00
Paris	CAC 40	1,894.15	1,927.83	-1.75
Stockholm	Affarsveardien	1,943.25	1,846.57	-0.18
Vienna	ATX Index	1,052.24	1,054.04	-0.08
Zurich	SBS	923.36	934.37	-0.64

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

burg Group PLC to organize the MGM sale, which it hopes to complete by the end of June.

Crédit Lyonnais said it was not interested in selling the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. movie studios because the bank thinks it can get a better price for them later. Under U.S. rules, the bank must sell 75 percent of its 98.5 percent stake in the MGM studios by May 1997.

MGM has 150 movie studios, of which 120 are in Britain.

Neil Blackley, an analyst at Goldman Sachs International Ltd. in London, said Gaumont SA and Pathe Cinéma SA, the French cinema chains, could be interested in the cinemas.

● Poland will redenominate its currency by dropping the last four zeros from the zloty, effective Sunday, to ease record keeping on financial transactions, but the value of holdings will stay the same, the Finance Ministry said.

● Argentina Corporación Bancaria de España SA, the Spanish state banking corporation, agreed to buy up to 10 percent of Telefonía de España's cellular phone unit.

● Volkswagen AG said its unit sales rose 7.9 percent in November to 265,800 cars, from the year-earlier month, while unit sales in the 11 months to November rose 7.1 percent, to 3.02 million units.

● Mobilycke-France S.A.R.L., a subsidiary of Svenska Cellulosa AB, said it was selling its Melka-Tenson clothing unit to William East PLC of Britain for about 134 million francs (\$25 million).

● East German industrial production rose 7 percent in October from September and 19.4 percent from October last year.

● Neste Oy shareholders authorized plans for possible listing on the Helsinki bourse and a 20 percent capital increase through the issue of up to 18 million shares.

Knight-Ridder, AFX, Reuters, AP

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Casino Operators Place Bets on MTV Kids and Exotic New Locales

By Barry Meier
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Rock and roulette, anyone? Twanging guitars and clattering wheels of chance might once have sounded like a strange combination. No longer. In March, the Hard Rock Cafe and Harveys Casino Resorts plan to open a youth-oriented casino and hotel in Las Vegas.

The casino will feature touch-screen-style video machines that would let gamblers play a variety of games, and gaming tables in the shapes of musical instruments. Attracting younger gamblers is just one strategy on which the casino industry is betting to keep its business growing. After years of aggressive expansion, gambling companies face the prospect that the capacity of casinos will eventually outpace the number of players to fill them. So companies are looking to attract new customers.

They are also looking to bigger attractions — such as a coming Mirage Resorts Inc. casino in the middle of a man-made lake, and MGM Grand's "New York-New York" project — to pull in the casual tourist. Finally, they are considering new markets in the United States and in nations from Greece to South Africa.

Jason Ader, an analyst with Smith Barney, Shearson Inc.,

said that South Africa is likely to become a casino center and that China and Vietnam appear to be moving towards liberalizing gambling.

Other countries mentioned by analysts as growing or new centers for gambling include Argentina, Australia, Greece, and Mexico. Plans by the Greek government, for instance, call for two new casinos outside Athens, one in Thessalonika, one in the Porto Carras resort, and others on the islands of Corfu and Rhodes.

At the same time, casino companies are attracting corporate suitors. Last week, for instance, ITT Corp., which operates hotels and casinos internationally through its ITT Sheraton subsidiary, agreed to acquire Caesars World Inc. in a deal valued at \$1.7 billion.

The deal will benefit ITT by bringing in Caesars' gambling management experience and linking the Caesars operations with ITT's hotels worldwide.

The ITT move followed its acquisition of Madison Square Garden in New York and coincided with the sale of some of its financial-service operations. It is seen by many analysts as an effort by ITT to concentrate on the entertainment-and-leisure industry.

By purchasing Caesars, ITT — already the owner of the De-

sert Inn casino in Las Vegas — is also able to scrap its plans to build the Desert Kingdom casino, a three-year project with an estimated cost of \$1 billion.

Speculation about other acquisitions is looming. Naomi Talish, an analyst with Morgan Stanley Group Inc., said. And the number of riverboat-style casinos and gambling operations on Indian reservations is also expected to grow in the next year.

For the moment, there is little need to find new gamblers. Last year, Americans wagered about \$297.3 billion on casino games and \$393.3 billion on all forms of legal gambling including pari-mutuels and lotteries, according to a recent Smith Barney report. That figure has been growing in recent years at about 10 percent annually.

But for all the current interest in gambling deals, there are troubling signs on the horizon. The

average age of those playing slot machines is 46 years old.

Younger people, raised on a diet of Nintendo and Sega video games, have little interest in spending hours pulling one-armed bandits. Hence, the touch-screen-style video gambling machines and gaming tables in the shapes of musical instruments at the Harveys-Hard Rock venture.

Meanwhile, some small gambling companies have been hit by bankruptcies. Even among larger and healthier concerns, such as Harrah's casinos, the cost of borrowing to finance new operations is becoming much more expensive.

Promus recently agreed to pay more than 21 percent on borrowed funds to finance the construction of a casino in New Orleans. Coupons on the bonds pay a steady interest rate of 14.25 percent; the company also agreed to give bondholders 7.25 percent of the casino's cash flow up to \$350 million a year, according to a Harrah's New Orleans executive.

"This was the year that investors learned that risks involved in casinos were higher than originally perceived," said Mr. Ader of Smith Barney.

The gambling industry has also recently taken its share of lumps politically. Despite a war

chest of \$10 million, an industry-led effort to bring casinos to Florida was defeated this fall by the state's voters.

While a few states, such as Missouri and Indiana, have opened their doors wider to gambling, the industry's prospects in larger, more lucrative states such as New York, Pennsylvania, Texas and California remain clouded.

A recent wild card was the election of a new crop of state

terests. But in the past, casino companies have had greater luck in getting gambling bills approved inside legislatures than through the ballot box.

Still, even in an era of uncertainty, leading casino operators are developing plans to expand their reach.

Caesars World, which already has linked two casino operations to Planet Hollywood restaurants, plans to open a third soon. The two companies

island surrounded by a 50-acre man-made lake. Each hotel room in the \$900 million complex, which is scheduled to open in mid-to-late 1997, will have a water view.

Another major Las Vegas development in the works is New York-New York, being built by MGM Grand. The project will recreate the flavor of New York City in the 1950s, and is scheduled to open by the end of 1996, urged to open by the end of 1996.

Elsewhere, an effort by Promus, the Harrah's operator, to open the largest U.S. casino in New Orleans has been delayed. Earlier this year, the attorney general of Louisiana, Richard LeRoy, ordered that a public contract for the casino should be rebid because Promus had significantly changed its original winning proposal. In July, however, the company won the contract again.

Because of the delays, Harrah's is not expected to open the 200,000 square-foot (18,000-square-meter) casino until mid-1996 at the earliest.

One fixture on the Atlantic City, New Jersey, scene — the ubiquitous Donald Trump — is also planning to expand his operations. Mr. Trump received one of two licenses recently awarded to operate a riverboat casino in Gary, Indiana. Pending financing, that project may open in six to nine months.

After years of aggressive expansion, gambling companies face the prospect that the capacity of casinos will eventually outpace the number of players to fill them. So companies are looking to attract new customers.

governors. In New York, for instance, Governor-elect George Pataki has indicated that he might consider legislation permitting casinos.

In Pennsylvania, where gambling advocates believed that they were on the verge of victory, Governor-elect Thomas Ridge said he would probably permit a statewide referendum on the issue.

Mr. Ridge's comments may sound positive for industry in-

also have an agreement to develop additional restaurant and casino concepts together.

"The name of the game these days is to get the walk-in business," said Joseph Coccimiglio, a gambling industry analyst with Dean Witter Reynolds.

Mirage Resorts may have the most ambitious plan of those on the drawing board. Known as *Beau Rivage*, or Beautiful Shore, the casino-hotel will be built in Las Vegas on a 17-acre

More Action

Some leading U.S. casino companies and their expansion plans.

Company	United States casinos		Other gambling interests
	Now open	Planned	
Caesars World	3	1	Indian casinos, riverboats
Circus Circus	8	2	Riverboats
Grand Casinos	5	3	Indian casinos
Hilton Hotels	6	1	Riverboats
Mirage Resorts	4	2	None
Promus (Harrah's)	14	4	Indian casinos, riverboats

*Acquisition by ITT Corporation is pending.

†Gambling operations located on Indian reservations.

Sources: Listed companies

The New York Times

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Malaysia and Thailand Get Upgrades From S&P

HONG KONG — Standard & Poor's Corp. on Thursday raised its ratings on more than \$4 billion of bonds from Malaysia and Thailand and praised the two countries' ability to "keep their economies on track" despite changing world market conditions.

The New York-based ratings agency raised to A-plus from A its ratings on \$1.65 billion of long-term foreign currency debt of the Malaysian government and three related companies. S&P also upgraded roughly \$2.5 billion of Thai government bonds to A from A-minus.

Bonds with A ratings are considered "upper-medium-grade obligations" with some elements of risk. Malaysia's rating makes it more creditworthy than Hong Kong and China, in S&P's opinion. The only Asian sovereign issuers with higher ratings are Japan, Singapore and Taiwan. Thailand's upgrade puts it on a par with Hong Kong.

"Certainly this will benefit us because we will receive better terms if we want to go into the market," said Chavalit Tanachanan, chairman of Industrial Finance Corp. of Thailand, the country's development bank, which is 30 percent government-owned.

Industrial Finance Corp.'s implied debt rating was raised along with that of the government. The rating is implied because the concern does not have any foreign-currency debt, but the company is considering a sale of dollar-denominated bonds, or Yankee bonds, in the United States, S&P said.

Thailand's biggest problems now are the slow pace at which the country is building an infrastructure and its growing reliance on external debt. Malaysia's challenge, S&P said, will be to

meet the demands of an economy growing at close to a 9 percent annual rate. With a low 2.9 percent unemployment rate, Malaysia faces a labor shortage that could slow industrial production and growth, S&P said.

These problems aside, Standard & Poor's said, the outlook is for consistently strong economic growth, moderate or manageable inflation and a healthy and diversified export and investment base in Malaysia and Thailand.

"We are generally bullish on the region. Our perspective is medium-term, and we don't see much capacity or scope for slippage by these or others we rate in the region," said Alan Tregilgas, an analyst for Standard & Poor's in Melbourne.

Malaysia's gross domestic product will increase 8 percent or more in 1995, S&P forecast, after seven years of 8.7 percent average annual growth. The country's inflation rate, as measured by the consumer price index, has run at less than 4 percent in 1994.

Thailand's economic picture is similar, with an 8.5 percent increase in gross domestic product for 1994 and a 9 percent forecast for 1995. Inflation, however, could be more troublesome, increasing to 6 percent next year from 5 percent, Mr. Tregilgas said.

[S&P also raised ratings on foreign debt of Malaysia's two listed utilities, Telekom Malaysia Bhd. and Tenaga Nasional Bhd. Agence France-Presse reported. Telekom's \$350 million of convertible bonds due 2004 and Tenaga's \$600 million of notes due the same year were upgraded to A-plus from A, reflecting the commitment of the Malaysian government to the two privatized utilities' viability, S&P said.]

Seoul Stocks Poised for Gains

SEOUL — The Seoul stock exchange, underpinned by brisk economic growth, abundant liquidity and an easing of the foreign shareholding ceiling, ended the year 18.6 percent higher, and analysts forecast more growth in 1995.

But the composite stock index, which closed at 1,027.37 on Wednesday, was still 9.8 percent below the record closing high of 1,138.39 that it reached on Nov. 9, 1994.

Market capitalization, the total value of outstanding stocks on the exchange, rose to a record 164 trillion won (\$207.24 billion) on Nov. 9, a rise of 46 percent from 1993.

"Blue-chip manufacturers, primary blue chips in particular, came under the spotlight this year as most have benefited from the robust economy and strong exports," said Lee Seong-dae, general manager of Seoul Securities.

Analysts said the market would extend its gains next year on the back of strong economic growth.

The Bank of Korea, the country's central bank, has projected that the economy will grow 7.3 percent in real terms next year, compared with an estimated 7.9 percent this year.

"The market is certain to reach a high of 1,300 next year and is expected to gain by 20 or 30 percent further in 1995," said Kim Sung-ho, vice president of Lehman Brothers in Seoul.

Seoul Securities predicted a high of 1,250 next year, while Daewoo Securities predicted 1,400 and Tongyang Securities forecast 1,380.

"Government monetary policy will decide market direction next year," said Mr. Kim of Lehman Brothers.

Korea Signals Hopes for WTO Candidate
South Korea will name Kim Chul-su, its former trade minister, as ambassador for international trade in a move to help him in the race for the top post of the emerging World Trade Organization.

"Mr. Kim Chul-su can now concentrate on his campaign, free from his burden as a trade minister," said Chung Ui-yong, director of international trade in the Foreign Ministry.

Widely supported by Asia-Pacific countries, including Japan and Australia, Mr. Kim is in a three-way race with Carlos Salinas de Gortari, former president of Mexico, and Renato Ruggiero, former Italian trade minister.

A Wet Blanket For Stir-Fried Shanghai Shares

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SHANGHAI — Stir-frying is about to go off the menu at the Shanghai Stock Exchange.

The name of a Cantonese cooking technique, in which smoking-hot oil is used to fry food in seconds, has been adopted by brokers and traders to describe a method of rapid-fire buying and selling that has flourished in China's largest stock exchange.

Starting Jan. 1, however, the Shanghai exchange will abolish the same-day settlement system that has allowed speculators to pile up quick trading profits.

The so-called T-plus-0 settlement system will be replaced by T-plus-1, or next-day settlement. This means traders will have to hold their purchases at least overnight before turning them around.

Analysts and brokers said the change could dramatically improve conditions for investors on the Shanghai exchange, which has gained a reputation for high volume and volatility since it was founded four years ago.

In the year ended Dec. 23, volume of domestically traded class-A shares on the Shanghai exchange was 557.6 billion yuan (\$65.6 billion), more than twice the market capitalization of about 250 billion yuan.

Brokers said same-day trading could account for more than half of turnover during a bull market, such as the one the exchange experienced earlier in the year.

Exchange officials decided in October to get rid of same-day settlement after Chinese securities dealers warned that trading was becoming too frenzied as traders concentrated on minute-to-minute price movements, rather than on fundamentals factors such as company results and economic trends.

Brokers said the new settlement system would not kill speculation, but it might cause traders to pay more attention to fundamentals. They also said the change

Rapid buying and selling obscures the fundamental reasons for owning shares.

small institutions who specialized in bidding up prices of cheap stocks in small companies before taking profits.

The new system could help even out wild index movements. Between January and July the index of A shares shot up 40 percent of its value, shot up by more than 200 percent in August and September, and is now down about 40 percent from its mid-September high.

Hard-currency class-B shares, held mainly by overseas investors, will be little affected by the new rule because the illiquidity of the B market makes trading difficult. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Bond Crackdown

The Shanghai Securities Exchange has banned profiteering in treasury bonds, saying traders who defy the ban will be fined and suspended. Bloomberg Business News reported Thursday.

The exchange said it is targeting traders who transfer ownership of spot treasury bonds without paying in a bid to drive up bond future prices.

Violators will face fines of between 10,000 and 200,000 yuan.

China Vows To Step Up Control of Grain Sales

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China on Thursday ordered tighter control of the grain market next year to increase supplies and curb price rises that have fueled runaway inflation.

The Economic Information Daily quoted the deputy minister of internal trade, Bai Meiqing, as saying the state must control 70 percent to 80 percent of the grain and edible oil in commercial circulation to ensure stable prices and guarantee supplies. That percentage, Mr. Bai said, "can never be relaxed."

He said state buying had been helped by a rise in prices paid to farmers in June, because state prices were lower than market prices.

But he said only the central government had the power to set policy on grain production and prices. He said the provinces were responsible for production, gathering stockpiles and ensuring price stability.

In addition, he said, only the central government and provincial authorities may buy grain directly from farmers.

Frequently this year, local governments needing grain, or private enterprises seeking quick profits, offered higher prices to farmers. State supplies fell as a result, and prices soared.

The latest official figures showed the price of grain in 35 major cities in October was 61.6 percent higher than a year earlier, with increases of 72.3 percent in Shanghai and the highest, 83.6 percent, in Fuzhou.

Over the year, inflation averaged 26.4 percent annually in 35 major cities in November.

Separately, the State Development Bank's president, Yao Zhenyuan, pledged to increase loans to agriculture-related projects by 20 percent next year, with priority given to raising grain yields.

The increased funding is aimed at reaching the harvest target of 500 million metric tons of grain by 2000, Mr. Yao was quoted as saying by the China Daily.

An official estimate this month put the 1994 grain harvest at 447.7 million tons, down from the record 456.4 million tons in 1993. (Reuters, AFP)

Investor's Asia

Hong Kong Hang Seng	Singapore Straits Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225
11000	2400	22000
10000	2200	20000
9000	2000	18000
8000	1800	16000
7000	1600	14000
6000	1400	12000
5000	1200	10000
4000	1000	8000
3000	800	6000
2000	600	4000
1000	400	2000
0	200	0

Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	8,186.02	8,288.22	-0.87
Singapore	Straits Times	2,243.02	2,234.18	+0.40
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,532.80	1,535.50	-0.14
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	18,752.98	19,665.53	+0.44
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	967.14	975.87	-0.90
Bangkok	SET	1,352.89	1,363.24	-0.76
Seoul	Composite Stock	Closed	1,027.39	
Taipei	Weighted Price	7,027.43	6,947.83	+1.15
Manila	PSE	2,785.81	2,777.78	+0.29
Jakarta	Stock Index	Closed	469.64	
New Zealand	NZSE-40	1,909.37	1,919.83	-0.54
Bombay	National Index	Closed	1,862.76	

Sources: Reuters, AFP

Very briefly:

- Oriental Press Group Ltd. announced a 15 percent drop in half-year profit, to 216.6 million Hong Kong dollars (\$28 million) in the six months ended Sept. 30 from 255.9 million dollars a year earlier, as it sought to turn around its seven-month-old English-language daily, the Eastern Express.
- Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi Arabian investor, led a group offering 1.98 billion baht (\$79 million) for a 21 percent stake in Jalapathan Cement Co., Thailand's fourth-largest cement producer.
- Giant Manufacturing Co. shares soared by their 7 percent daily limit on their first day of trading on the Taiwan Stock Exchange, as investors reacted to the bicycle maker's promising prospects in China and expectations of improved earnings in 1995.
- First Pacific Co. and the British telecommunications concern Vodafone Group PLC will merge their Hong Kong joint-venture companies, Pacific Link Communications and Pacific Telelink.
- Indonesia is studying setting up a plant in Europe to assemble its N-250 turboprop aircraft, similar to the one it plans to build in the United States.
- Jardine Matheson Holdings Ltd. ends trading on the Hong Kong stock exchange Friday as it implements its decision made in March to move its headquarters to Singapore.
- China plans to seek a new round of bids for onshore oil exploration projects next year, as its national output levels off while demand soars. Several prospective oil and natural gas fields will be opened for bidding by foreign companies in 1995, said Wang Tao, president of China National Petroleum Corp.
- China's telecommunications sector is seeking to end foreign companies' near-monopoly on its booming digital switching market by merging its existing companies into what it hopes will be two powerful, competitive conglomerates.
- Tenaga Nasional Bhd. said it would spend as much as 7 billion ringgit (\$3 billion) building substations and upgrading its services to cope with increasing electricity demand in Malaysia.
- Vietnam's economy grew 8.5 percent in 1994 on the strength of a good harvest and robust trade, according to preliminary government figures. Industry grew 13.5 percent during the year, while agricultural output grew 4.5 percent.

AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters, AP

Thai Firm Plans \$1 Billion Chip Project

Bloomberg Business News

BANGKOK — Alphatec Electronics Co. said Thursday it would invest about \$1 billion to launch Thailand's most ambitious semiconductor project so far.

The project will be undertaken through a subsidiary called SubMicron Technology Co., the company's chief executive, Charn Uswachoke, said. SubMicron will produce ultrathin silicon wafers, the base material for microchips.

A group made up mostly of Thai banks will provide a revolving loan for the project of about 20 billion baht (\$800 million).

Bangkok Bank Ltd., Krung Thai Bank Ltd., Nakornchok Bank Co., Bangkok Metropolitan Bank Ltd. and Industrial Finance Corp. of Thailand will lead the group of lenders. Several of the banks will also have equity stakes, Mr. Charn said.

Mr. Charn also said Alphatec planned

to take SubMicron public "sometime next year."

He said the project had already lined up technology advisers and potential customers such as AT&T Corp., Rockwell International Corp. and National Semiconductor Corp.

Alphatec's first big move came in 1991 when it bought the chip-packaging assembly line of Signetics Co., now a division of Philips Electronics NV. Alphatec now assembles integrated circuits on a contract basis for Signetics.

The company also assembles computer chips for National Semiconductor and Olin Corp., from which Alphatec also bought production divisions.

"The quality of Alphatec's customer base has given it valuable access to some of the world's leading technologies," said John Hui, an analyst for Bankers Trust

Research, in a report on the company.

In June, Mr. Charn and Alphatec jointly bought the Thai phone manufacturing division of AT&T, which they spun off into a separate company, Alphatec.

Alphatec now produces integrated circuits for AT&T and Alphatec.

Analysts said the company's strategy was wise, as it had made the company important but not threatening.

"It's growing rapidly, but not getting too big," said Michael Hodgson, an analyst for Nomura Securities. "Charn wants to keep it handy for the big boys like Texas Instruments and AT&T. But he doesn't want to make it big enough to be a threat."

Alphatec's net profit this year will be about \$20 million on sales of \$400 million, Mr. Charn said, adding that he "conservatively" forecasts revenue growth of 15 percent in 1995.

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NASDAQ

Thursday's 4 p.m.
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

[illegible][illegible]

AMEX

Thursday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

12 Months	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yr Pct	52 Wk	High	Low	Large	Others
1916	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1917	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1918	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1919	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1920	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1921	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1922	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1923	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1924	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1925	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1926	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1927	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1928	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1929	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1930	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1931	100	100	100			100	100	100		
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1984	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1985	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1986	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1987	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1988	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1989	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1990	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1991	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1992	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1993	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1994	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1995	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1996	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1997	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1998	100	100	100			100	100	100		
1999	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2000	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2001	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2002	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2003	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2004	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2005	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2006	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2007	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2008	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2009	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2010	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2011	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2012	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2013	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2014	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2015	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2016	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2017	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2018	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2019	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2020	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2021	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2022	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2023	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2024	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2025	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2026	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2027	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2028	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2029	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2030	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2031	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2032	100	100	100			100	100	100		
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2035	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2036	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2037	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2038	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2039	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2040	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2041	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2042	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2043	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2044	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2045	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2046	100	100	100			100	100	100		
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2071	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2072	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2073	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2074	100	100	100			100	100	100		
2075	100	100	100			100	100			

1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100

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N-O-P-Q	
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98	98
99	99
100	100

High Line Stock	Div.	Yld	PG	50c	High	Low	Open	Close
1000	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1001	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1002	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1003	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1004	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1005	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1006	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1007	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1008	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1009	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1010	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1011	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1012	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1013	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1014	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1015	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1016	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1017	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1018	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1019	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1020	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1021	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1022	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1023	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1024	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1025	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1026	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1027	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1028	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1029	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1030	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1031	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1032	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1033	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1034	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1035	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1036	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1037	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1038	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1039	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1040	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1041	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1042	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1043	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1044	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1045	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
1046	1.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

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12th Month	Stock	DIV	YLD PCT	P/E	HSH	Low	Latest	Open
12/1	Overseas	320	13	21	210	87 1/2	210 1/2	210 1/2
12/2	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/3	1944 Steel	05	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/4	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/5	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/6	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/7	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/8	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/9	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/10	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/11	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/12	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/13	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/14	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/15	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/16	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/17	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/18	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/19	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/20	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/21	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/22	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/23	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/24	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/25	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/26	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/27	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/28	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/29	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/30	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
12/31	1944 Steel	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

24	W	52	25	X	51	26	Y	52	27	Z	53	28	W	54	29	X	55	30	Y	56	31	Z	57	32	W	58	33	X	59	34	Y	60	35	Z	61	36	W	62	37	X	63	38	Y	64	39	Z	65	40	W	66	41	X	67	42	Y	68	43	Z	69	44	W	70	45	X	71	46	Y	72	47	Z	73	48	W	74	49	X	75	50	Y	76	51	Z	77	52	W	78	53	X	79	54	Y	80	55	Z	81	56	W	82	57	X	83	58	Y	84	59	Z	85	60	W	86	61	X	87	62	Y	88	63	Z	89	64	W	90	65	X	91	66	Y	92	67	Z	93	68	W	94	69	X	95	70	Y	96	71	Z	97	72	W	98	73	X	99	74	Y	100	75	Z	101	76	W	102	77	X	103	78	Y	104	79	Z	105	80	W	106	81	X	107	82	Y	108	83	Z	109	84	W	110	85	X	111	86	Y	112	87	Z	113	88	W	114	89	X	115	90	Y	116	91	Z	117	92	W	118	93	X	119	94	Y	120	95	Z	121	96	W	122	97	X	123	98	Y	124	99	Z	125	100	W	126	101	X	127	102	Y	128	103	Z	129	104	W	130	105	X	131	106	Y	132	107	Z	133	108	W	134	109	X	135	110	Y	136	111	Z	137	112	W	138	113	X	139	114	Y	140	115	Z	141	116	W	142	117	X	143	118	Y	144	119	Z	145	120	W	146	121	X	147	122	Y	148	123	Z	149	124	W	150	125	X	151	126	Y	152	127	Z	153	128	W	154	129	X	155	130	Y	156	131	Z	157	132	W	158	133	X	159	134	Y	160	135	Z	161	136	W	162	137	X	163	138	Y	164	139	Z	165	140	W	166	141	X	167	142	Y	168	143	Z	169	144	W	170	145	X	171	146	Y	172	147	Z	173	148	W	174	149	X	175	150	Y	176	151	Z	177	152	W	178	153	X	179	154	Y	180	155	Z	181	156	W	182	157	X	183	158	Y	184	159	Z	185	160	W	186	161	X	187	162	Y	188	163	Z	189	164	W	190	165	X	191	166	Y	192	167	Z	193	168	W	194	169	X	195	170	Y	196	171	Z	197	172	W	198	173	X	199	174	Y	200	175	Z	201	176	W	202	177	X	203	178	Y	204	179	Z	205	180	W	206	181	X	207	182	Y	208	183	Z	209	184	W	210	185	X	211	186	Y	212	187	Z	213	188	W	214	189	X	215	190	Y	216	191	Z	217	192	W	218	193	X	219	194	Y	220	195	Z	221	196	W	222	197	X	223	198	Y	224	199	Z	225	200	W	226	201	X	227	202	Y	228	203	Z	229	204	W	230	205	X	231	206	Y	232	207	Z	233	208	W	234	209	X	235	210	Y	236	211	Z	237	212	W	238	213	X	239	214	Y	240	215	Z	241	216	W	242	217	X	243	218	Y	244	219	Z	245	220	W	246	221	X	247	222	Y	248	223	Z	249	224	W	250	225	X	251	226	Y	252	227	Z	253	228	W	254	229	X	255	230	Y	256	231	Z	257	232	W	258	233	X	259	234	Y	260	235	Z	261	236	W	262	237	X	263	238	Y	264	239	Z	265	240	W	266	241	X	267	242	Y	268	243	Z	269	244	W	270	245	X	271	246	Y	272	247	Z	273	248	W	274	249	X	275	250	Y	276	251	Z	277	252	W	278	253	X	279	254	Y	280	255	Z	281	256	W	282	257	X	283	258	Y	284	259	Z	285	260	W	286	261	X	287	262	Y	288	263	Z	289	264	W	290	265	X	291	266	Y	292	267	Z	293	268	W	294	269	X	295	270	Y	296	271	Z	297	272	W	298	273	X	299	274	Y	300	275	Z	301	276	W	302	277	X	303	278	Y	304	279	Z	305	280	W	306	281	X	307	282	Y	308	283	Z	309	284	W	310	285	X	311	286	Y	312	287	Z	313	288	W	314	289	X	315	290	Y	316	291	Z	317	292	W	318	293	X	319	294	Y	320	295	Z	321	296	W	322	297	X	323	298	Y	324	299	Z	325	300	W	326	301	X	327	302	Y	328	303	Z	329	304	W	330	305	X	331	306	Y	332	307	Z	333	308	W	334	309	X	335	310	Y	336	311	Z	337	312	W	338	313	X	339	314	Y	340	315	Z	341	316	W	342	317	X	343	318	Y	344	319	Z	345	320	W	346	321	X	347	322	Y	348	323	Z	349	324	W	350	325	X	351	326	Y	352	327	Z	353	328	W	354	329	X	355	330	Y	356	331	Z	357	332	W	358	333	X	359	334	Y	360	335	Z	361	336	W	362	337	X	363	338	Y	364	339	Z	365	340	W	366	341	X	367	342	Y	368	343	Z	369	344	W	370	345	X	371	346	Y	372	347	Z	373	348	W	374	349	X	375	350	Y	376	351	Z	377	352	W	378	353	X	379	354	Y	380	355	Z	381	356	W	382	357	X	383	358	Y	384	359	Z	385	360	W	386	361	X	387	362	Y	388	363	Z	389	364	W	390	365	X	391	366	Y	392	367	Z	393	368	W	394	369	X	395	370	Y	396	371	Z	397	372	W	398	373	X	399	374	Y	400	375	Z	401	376	W	402	377	X	403	378	Y	404	379	Z	405	380	W	406	381	X	407	382	Y	408	383	Z	409	384	W	410	385	X	411	386	Y	412	387	Z	413	388	W	414	389	X	415	390	Y	416	391	Z	417	392	W	418	393	X	419	394	Y	420	395	Z	421	396	W	422	397	X	423	398	Y	424	399	Z	425	400	W	426	401	X	427	402	Y	428	403	Z	429	404	W	430	405	X	431	406	Y	432	407	Z	433	408	W	434	409	X	435	410	Y	436	411	Z	437	412	W	438	413	X	439	414	Y	440	415	Z	441	416	W	442	417	X	443	418	Y	444	419	Z	445	420	W	446	421	X	447	422	Y	448	423	Z	449	424	W	450	425	X	451	426	Y	452	427	Z	453	428	W	454	429	X	455	430	Y	456	431	Z	457	432	W	458	433	X	459	434	Y	460	435	Z	461	436	W	462	437	X	463	438	Y	464	439	Z	465	440	W	466	441	X	467	442	Y	468	443	Z	469	444	W	470	445	X	471	446	Y	472	447	Z	473	448	W	474	449	X	475	450	Y	476	451	Z	477	452	W	478	453	X	479	454	Y	480	455	Z	481	456	W	482	457	X	483	458	Y	484	459	Z	485	460	W	486	461	X	487	462	Y	488	463	Z	489	464	W	490	465	X	491	466	Y	492	467	Z	493	468	W	494	469	X	495	470	Y	496	471	Z	497	472	W	498	473	X	499	474	Y	500	475	Z	501	476	W	502	477	X	503	478	Y	504	479	Z	505	480	W	506	481	X	507	482	Y	508	483	Z	509	484	W	510	485	X	511	486	Y	512	487	Z	513	488	W	514	489	X	515	490	Y	516	491	Z	517	492	W	518	493	X	519	494	Y	520	495	Z	521	496	W	522	497	X	523	498	Y	524	499	Z	525	500	W	526	501	X	527	502	Y	528	503	Z	529	504	W	530	505	X	531	506	Y	532	507	Z	533	508	W	534	509	X	535	510	Y	536	511	Z	537	512	W	538	513	X	539	514	Y	540	515	Z	541	516	W	542	517	X	543	518	Y	544	519	Z	545	520	W	546	521	X	547	522	Y	548	523	Z	549	524	W	550	525	X	551	526	Y	552	527	Z	553	528	W	554	529	X	555	530	Y	556	531	Z	557	532	W	558	533	X	559	534	Y	560	535	Z	561	536	W	562	537	X	563	538	Y	564	539	Z	565	540	W	566	541	X	567	542	Y	568	543	Z	569	544	W	570	545	X	571	546	Y	572	547	Z	573	548	W	574	549	X	575	550	Y	576	551	Z	577	552	W	578	553	X	579	554	Y	580	555	Z	581	556	W	582	557	X	583	558	Y	584	559	Z	585	560	W	586	561	X	587	562	Y	588	563	Z	589	564	W	590	565	X	591	566	Y	592	567	Z	593	568	W	594	569	X	595	570	Y	596	571	Z	597	572	W	598	573	X	599	574	Y	600	575	Z	601	576	W	602	577	X	603	578	Y	604	579	Z	605	580	W	606	581	X	607	582	Y	608	583	Z	609	584	W	610	585	X	611	586	Y	612	587	Z	613	588	W	614	589	X	615	590	Y	616	591	Z	617	592	W	618	593	X	619	594	Y	620	595	Z	621	596	W	622	597	X	623	598	Y	624	599	Z	625	600	W	626	601	X	627	602	Y	628	603	Z	629	604	W	630	605	X
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Month	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
1997	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
1998	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
1999	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2000	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2001	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2002	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2003	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2004	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2005	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2006	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2007	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2008	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2009	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2010	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2011	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2012	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2013	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2014	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2015	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2016	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2017	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2018	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2019	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2020	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2021	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2022	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2023	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2024	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2025	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2026	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2027	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2028	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2029	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2030	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2031	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2032	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2033	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2034	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2035	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2036	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2037	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85
2038	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85	1.00	0.75	0.80	0.85

品名	單位	數量	價格	總計
上等白米	石	100	1.50	150.00
中上白米	石	200	1.20	240.00
中下白米	石	300	1.00	300.00
下等白米	石	400	0.80	320.00
糯米	石	500	1.80	900.00
雜糧	石	600	0.60	360.00
油	桶	10	20.00	200.00
鹽	斤	1000	0.10	100.00
糖	斤	500	0.20	100.00
茶	斤	200	0.50	100.00
布	匹	100	1.00	100.00
紙	張	10000	0.01	100.00
其他	項	100	0.50	50.00
合計				2550.00

Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Ratio	High	Low	Current	Change
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
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Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
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Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
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Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
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Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Dec	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jan	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Aug	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Sep	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Oct	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Nov	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
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Feb	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Mar	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Apr	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
May	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jun	44	11	2	1	1	1	1	25	25	25	+10
Jul											

品名	単位	数量	金額	備考
米	石	10	100	
小麦	石	5	50	
大豆	石	3	30	
粟	石	2	20	
稗	石	1	10	
高粱	石	1	10	
玉米	石	1	10	
花生	石	1	10	
芝麻	石	1	10	
棉花	石	1	10	
羊毛	石	1	10	
皮革	石	1	10	
木材	石	1	10	
煤炭	石	1	10	
石油	石	1	10	
天然气	石	1	10	
电力	石	1	10	
电话	石	1	10	
电报	石	1	10	
邮政	石	1	10	
铁路	石	1	10	
航空	石	1	10	
海运	石	1	10	
陆运	石	1	10	
水运	石	1	10	
空运	石	1	10	
联运	石	1	10	
其他	石	1	10	
合计	石	100	1000	

14th	13th	12th	11th	10th	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	1st	0th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	32nd	33rd	34th	35th	36th	37th	38th	39th	40th	41st	42nd	43rd	44th	45th	46th	47th	48th	49th	50th	51st	52nd	53rd	54th	55th	56th	57th	58th	59th	60th	61st	62nd	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	68th	69th	70th	71st	72nd	73rd	74th	75th	76th	77th	78th	79th	80th	81st	82nd	83rd	84th	85th	86th	87th	88th	89th	90th	91st	92nd	93rd	94th	95th	96th	97th	98th	99th	100th
14th	13th	12th	11th	10th	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	1st	0th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	32nd	33rd	34th	35th	36th	37th	38th	39th	40th	41st	42nd	43rd	44th	45th	46th	47th	48th	49th	50th	51st	52nd	53rd	54th	55th	56th	57th	58th	59th	60th	61st	62nd	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	68th	69th	70th	71st	72nd	73rd	74th	75th	76th	77th	78th	79th	80th	81st	82nd	83rd	84th	85th	86th	87th	88th	89th	90th	91st	92nd	93rd	94th	95th	96th	97th	98th	99th	100th

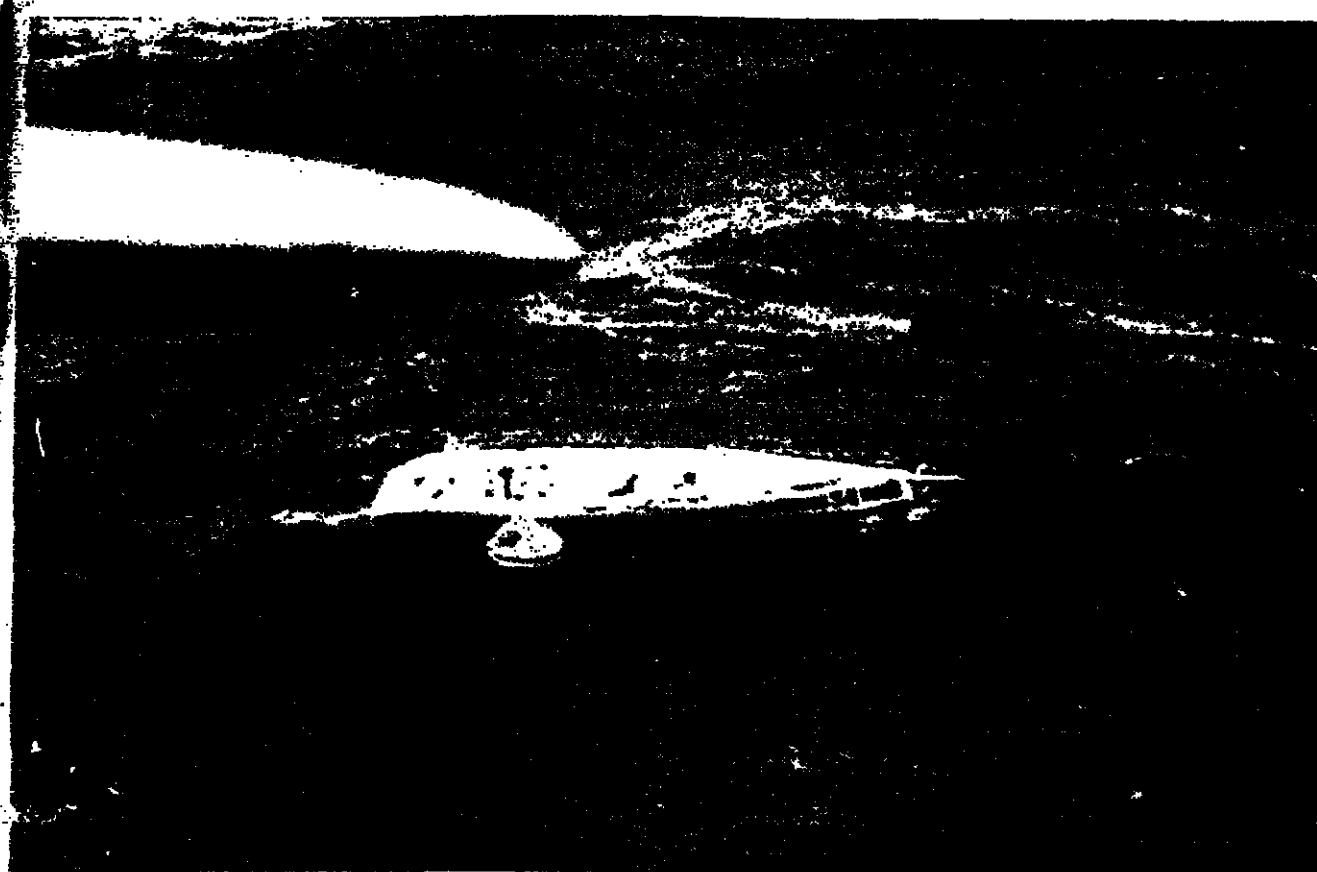
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Year	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	

[illegible]

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SPORTS



Isabelle Autissier's demasted yacht was adrift in gale-whipped 26-foot seas when spotted by the Australian air force plane.

Autissier Sighted, Boat Demasted And Adrift in Indian Ocean Storm

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SYDNEY — The French sailor Isabelle Autissier has been sighted aboard her crippled yacht, adrift in huge seas in the Indian Ocean, but as of late Thursday no radio contact had been made with her as search aircraft shadowed the demasted boat.

Autissier, in the 60-foot (18 meter) Ecurieil Poitou Charentes II, was competing in the BOC Challenge, the around-the-world race for solo sailors, when she sent two distress signals Wednesday.

About 100 naval personnel had been recalled from Christmas leave to man the guided-missile frigate Darwin, which was being sent to her area from Fremantle.

The Darwin has a helicopter aboard and could lift the 38-year-old French sailor off her yacht if necessary. But the frigate will be unlikely to reach Autissier, who was more than 800 nautical miles south of Australia, before late Saturday.

Autissier had managed to lash a life raft and sea-rescue pack, dropped from the search plane, to the side of her boat, according to a Australian Maritime Safety Authority spokesman, Keith Hooper.

"Two packs were dropped. One drifted away, but she got the second," he said. "But she has not managed to get to radios included in the pack and make contact

with an Orion aircraft which has taken over the shadowing operation."

The winds, he said, were between 50 and 60 knots and the seas between eight and 12 meters (26 and 39 feet).

"Looking for her was like looking for a pin in the Grand Canyon," he added.

The BOC race director, Mark Schrader, said: "If she simply had no mast, had been demasted, and the yacht was riding on top of the water she would be riding along at a pretty good speed. She is not, so it is probably full of water and my guess is that somehow it has either been holed, rolled over and the mast lost."

But Michael Taylor, an official at the Australian Maritime Rescue Coordination Center in Canberra, said visual checks from the Australian Air Force Orion circling the yacht had not seen any holes in the hull.

He said crackling and "virtually unintelligible" radio contact had been received.

Autissier, the race's lone woman entrant, was spotted earlier Thursday by an air force Hercules, 18 hours after she set off distress beacons. Hooper said Autissier stood up and waved to the aircraft.

There were no commercial ships reported in the area, which is off the main ship-

ping channels. Race officials said earlier in the day that they had put Minoru Saito, a Japanese BOC racer 360 miles to the north of Autissier, on alert.

Nigel Rowe, skipper of Sky Catcher, the 48-foot BOC yacht that had been 250 miles to the northeast of Autissier, reported that his boat's rudder had jammed and that its tiller had broken in apparently the same storm that hit Autissier.

It was the second time in a month that her boat had been demasted, after she won the opening leg of the race, from Charleston, South Carolina, to Cape Town, in record time.

The 83-foot mast on Ecurieil was torn off by a gale when she was about 1,000 miles into the second leg. She fixed a makeshift rig with the boat's spinnaker pole, and sailed on to the Kerguelen Islands, midway in the Indian Ocean, for repairs. She left there with a new, but smaller mast on Dec. 17.

Autissier, an engineer and marine science professor from La Rochelle, is a veteran sailor who competed in the 1990-91 BOC race. In May, with a crew of three, she broke the New York-San Francisco record around Cape Horn by 17 days in the same boat.

(AFP, Reuters, AP, NYT)

China Pulls Swim Team From Meet In Hong Kong

BEIJING — China's swim team has pulled out of next month's short-course World Cup opening meet in Hong Kong, the Chinese Swimming Federation's vice president, Yuan Jiawei, said Thursday.

The record-breaking team, which was rocked by seven positive drug tests at the Asian Games in Hiroshima, is also doubtful for the other six World Cup meets, in England, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden, Yuan said. He cited fatigue, budget constraints and visa problems.

"The team has been under a lot of strain recently," Yuan said. "We have just finished in Hiroshima and the swimmers are tired and need time to recuperate."

But he strongly denied that the decision stemmed from federation fears that participation in Hong Kong might result in another doping scandal.

"That is nonsense," he said. "There is absolutely no link between this decision and the Asian Games incident." In October, which led to world champions Lu Bin and Yang Aihua, among others, being banned from competition for two years.

Yuan said the main difficulty with the Hong Kong meet was getting visas in time. He said team members were now spread all across China and there was not enough time to collect their passports and go through the visa formalities.

As for the other meets, Yuan said a decision would be made following a review of budget limitations and China's domestic swimming program.

"The decision will be made at the highest level," he said.

Killer Waves in California Claim the Life of a Surfing Legend

By Tom Friend

HALF MOON BAY, California — This beach needs lifeguards or a priest. The body of an expert surfer washed ashore here at Pillar Point last Friday, swallowed by waves that grow like weeds, and yet his peers are already leaping back in.

They are virtual kamikaze pilots, baited by swells the size of two-story condominiums. A sign stamped in the sand Wednesday said, "Danger: Extremely Hazardous Waves," and if that is not warning enough, they can read the obituaries of Mark Foo, world-class surfer, as well as two boaters who drowned Monday, 50 miles (80 kilometers) off the shore.

"The ocean has been taking this year," said Jeff Clark, a local surfer who first rode these skyscrapers back in 1975.

The waves here even have a title — Maverick's — and they were juiced the week before Christmas by a rugged cold front straight out of Alaska. Foo, who tracked the storm like a weatherman, flew here overnight from Hawaii last Friday to measure

them for himself, and his first ride, on no sleep, was his last.

"They say if you fall in those waves, the intensity of it will rip your wet suit off and turn it inside out," said Trent Freitas of nearby Vallejo, starting at the 30-foot breakers but not quite bold enough to paddle in.

Foo was not so squeamish. He had surfed the largest waves since his teens and had little trepidation about diving in. He conquered an initial curl of water last Friday, but was tugged under and, according to medical examiners, likely knocked unconscious by his own surfboard. His board, smashed in two and leashed to his leg, then turned into the anchor that drowned him.

Pillar Point Harbor has turned into a spectacle because of the raging northern California coast and publicity that this week had surfers alternately livid and reflective. They were less worried about a repeat catastrophe than about the loss of their sacred surfing ground.

Surfers, by rule, are provincial, and Pillar Point was their somewhat private escape until about three years

ago, when the secret of Maverick's began to circulate. The first sign of trouble was the construction of a dirt parking lot. Then, last week, television cameras, blimps and even a golfer — who began driving balls off a cliff — were on the scene.

It was the Maverick's that attracted Foo, 36, the surfing legend of

do, and he told me often he would die young. It was nothing morbid, but he loved taking chances.

"I have no feeling that I should have talked him out of going to Pillar Point. Because I accept him for who he was and what he lived for. He was not a thrill-seeker in general. He did not drive fast, didn't try to climb

Mark Foo flew in from Hawaii for his first ride on the waves called Maverick's. It was his last.

Haleiwa, Hawaii. He was known as the Joe Montana of Big Waves and was a do-it-all: broadcaster, author, businessman, health enthusiast, traveler. He kept hearing about the danger of Pillar Point and wanted to see it.

It was not uncommon for Foo, a man of wealth, to pick up, on an hour's notice, and fly straight to an ocean storm.

"He'd fly to Tahiti in a minute," his sister, Sharyn Foo-Wagner said Wednesday, the day of his funeral. "He did exactly what he wanted to

mountains. Only surfing, only surfing."

It was Foo's notion that Hawaii's Waimea Bay and Mexico's Todos Santos were the proving grounds for big-wave surfers, but nothing apparently prepared him for cold-water Maverick's, where the waves reach perhaps 40 feet.

"I don't surf Maverick's," said Eric Nelson of nearby Monterey, who is producing a surfing documentary. "It's not a regular wave. It's like comparing a Formula One race car to a go-cart. Listen, the next time you see

a two-story house, lay on your back and look up at the roof. That's how big the wave is."

Nelson's surfing brother, Alan, interrupted: "They should get the Guinness Book of World Records out there. The wave doesn't even know how big it is. It's like a football field and a half. That's how long the wave is. It just peels and peels and peels. It keeps peeling."

More than 50 people saw the water envelope Foo last Friday, although not a single one knew to cry for help. According to an expert surfer and eyewitness, Shawn Rhodes, Foo conquered his first wave but "didn't have a transition together" for the next one. "His board skipped out, and he basically just ate it," Rhodes said.

But his body was not found until an hour later, when Foo's equally well-known surfing partners and travel companions, Brock Little and Mike Parsons, located him face down in the harbor, his head apparently bloodied by the surfboard. The glare from the sun had shielded their eyesight and perhaps prevented his rescue. As a result, they thought he had

gone back for a new board and had no clue he was drowning.

Evidently, there had been some miscalculating on Foo's part. The wave he chose was only 18 to 20 feet high, but the wind had shifted and was forcing the surf toward the rocks.

"Maybe they're not the biggest waves in the world," Clark said, "but they're probably the meanest. By the way the wave breaks, it displaces so much water so quickly. There are under 100 surfers in the whole world who want any part of this surf. People who think they can go out there, just spin and go on a 20-foot wave have got another think coming. It just goes to show no matter how prepared you are, you're in Neptune's playground. It shreds it out at will. The ocean has no conscience. It does not care."

The same Maverick's, three days later, capsize a 10-foot inflatable raft up the coast in Tamales Bay, killing Gaylene Denne, 34, of Napa and her 10-year-old son, Michael. And, as a peculiar result, Pillar Point is today a tourist attraction that draws at least 2,000 gawking people every afternoon.

SIDELINES

Thieves Score Off Hockey Players

RED DEER, Alberta (AP) — Thieves broke into about 40 hotel rooms and stole an undetermined amount of money from players of the Czech, Russian and German teams at the world junior ice hockey championship, police said.

"You don't expect this kind of thing in Red Deer, Canada," a Russian team official said as his players boarded a bus on their way to practice. "Maybe in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, but not in the American Midwest or in Red Deer, Canada."

Sharpe Needs Surgery on Vertebrae

GREEN BAY, Wisconsin (AP) — Sterling Sharpe, the Green Bay Packers five-time Pro Bowl receiver, needs surgery to fuse the two vertebrae in his neck, the team physician said.

Trainer Pepper Harris said the injury, which developed gradually, resulted from unusual looseness between the top two vertebrae, which move and pinch Sharpe's spinal cord.

For the Record

Abe Pollin, who owns the NBA's Bulls and NHL's Capitals, announced that he will pay for building an \$180-million arena for the teams in downtown Washington.

Tom Flores, who won only 14 games in three seasons at Seattle, was fired as coach of the NFL Seahawks.

No. 18-ranked Virginia beat Texas Christian, 20-10, in the Independence Bowl as Mike Groh passed for one touchdown and Kevin Brooks rushed for 114 yards.

No. 3 Arkansas and No. 20 Cincinnati Still En Route for End of Rainbow

The Associated Press

Bring together four of the best college basketball programs in the United States, including the national champion, and you might get some terrific games.

The Rainbow Classic was the place to be Wednesday night as NCAA champ Arkansas, ranked third, rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit to beat Oklahoma, 86-84. In the other first-round game, No. 20 Cincinnati held off No. 17 Georgia Tech, 69-66.

The Razorbacks (9-1) trailed by 51-36 with 17:46 to play before turning to their vaunted pressure defense to force Oklahoma (7-1) into turnover after turnover as they chipped away at the lead.

"Oklahoma probably out-

played us in every aspect of the game except going down the stretch, when things went in our favor," said Arkansas coach, Nolan Richardson. "Our kids found a way to win, and that's what I told them at halftime."

The Razorbacks took the lead for good at 81-79 on a 3-

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

pointer by Clint McDaniel with 1:11 to play en route to their ninth consecutive victory.

"The clock ran out on us," said Oklahoma's coach, Kevin Sampson. "Another minute and we may have won it."

Cordell Williamson led Arkansas with 19 points, 15 in the second half, and Scotty Thurman had 16.

Ryan Minor led the Sooners, who lost their first game under Sampson, with 31 points.

No. 20 Cincinnati 69, No. 17 Georgia Tech 66: Minus two starters and with their best shooter, LaZelle Durden, still in a funk, the Bearcats (8-3) knocked off the Yellow Jackets (7-2) as freshman Danny Fortson got 20 points and nine rebounds while Darrell Burton added 16 points.

Durden, who holds every school record for 3-point shooting, continued his scoring slump after a three-game span in which he had 94 points. He had 7 in the Bearcats' loss to California before they headed to Honolulu, and managed 9 on 4-for-14 shooting against Georgia Tech.

No. 12 Georgetown 83, Grambling 66: Freshman Allen Iverson had 27 points and five steals as No. 12 Georgetown won its sixth straight after an opening loss to Arkansas. The Hoyas advanced to the title game of the Sacramento Holiday Classic against Fairfield, which beat host Sacramento State.

"It's in the genes, because I lived off that shot for many years," Jiri Zidek said through a translator.

George Zidek, a Czech, playing college basketball in front of his father for the first time, opened the game with a 6-foot hook, a shot that made his father, Jiri, one of Europe's best shooters in the early 1970s.

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CROSSWORD

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Camera settings</p> <p>7 Reprofit bus</p> <p>35 1970's Best Picture</p>	<p>16 "Shogun" rite</p> <p>17 Secluded spot</p> <p>19 Like Toons</p> <p>20 Cedar Rapids college</p>	<p>26 Verdugo and</p> <p>27 Not share</p> <p>28 Portaire of</p> <p>29 Work long and hard</p> <p>30 Store, in a way</p> <p>31 Air bubble</p> <p>32 African accretion of fiction</p> <p>33 At the age of: Lat., abbr.</p> <p>34 Agamemnon's father</p> <p>35 Rocky ridge</p> <p>36 1940 Hope film</p> <p>37 Liasome</p> <p>38 Stealth craft</p> <p>39 Scratchy shrub</p> <p>40 Chopper</p> <p>41 bone</p> <p>42 Camels' kin</p> <p>43 Furthermore</p> <p>44 Prefix meaning failure</p> <p>45 Roy Orbison's "Over"</p> <p>46 Playwright Notman</p> <p>47 Queen before Sophia</p> <p>48 Refute</p> <p>49 Personal spa</p> <p>50 Dubai and others</p> <p>51 Disentwine</p> <p>52 Security</p> <p>53 Hitchcock book</p> <p>54 "A" of a Different Color</p>	<p>5 New Zealand runner Peter</p> <p>7 1982 Dietrich film</p> <p>8 Miraculous</p> <p>9 Great the day</p> <p>10 Flight</p> <p>11 Police blotter letters</p> <p>12 Hip</p> <p>13 Interglacial on an insect's wing</p> <p>14 Role for seven actresses</p> <p>15 Sister of Selene</p> <p>16 Dufour's province</p> <p>17 Enter gradually</p> <p>18 Chaos</p> <p>19 Directional suffix</p> <p>20 City on the Mohawk</p> <p>21 Soak</p> <p>22 Follow, in slang</p> <p>23 Na Na</p> <p>24 Part of a death</p> <p>25 Hangers-on</p> <p>26 Punctured-in</p> <p>27 Vacation mementos</p> <p>28 Last syllable of a word</p> <p>29 Backbone of a mountain range</p> <p>30 1994 U.S. Open golf champ</p> <p>31 Ancient greetings</p> <p>32 Before indicator</p> <p>33 Tore</p> <p>34 Singer's syllable</p>
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2 City north of Sunnyvale

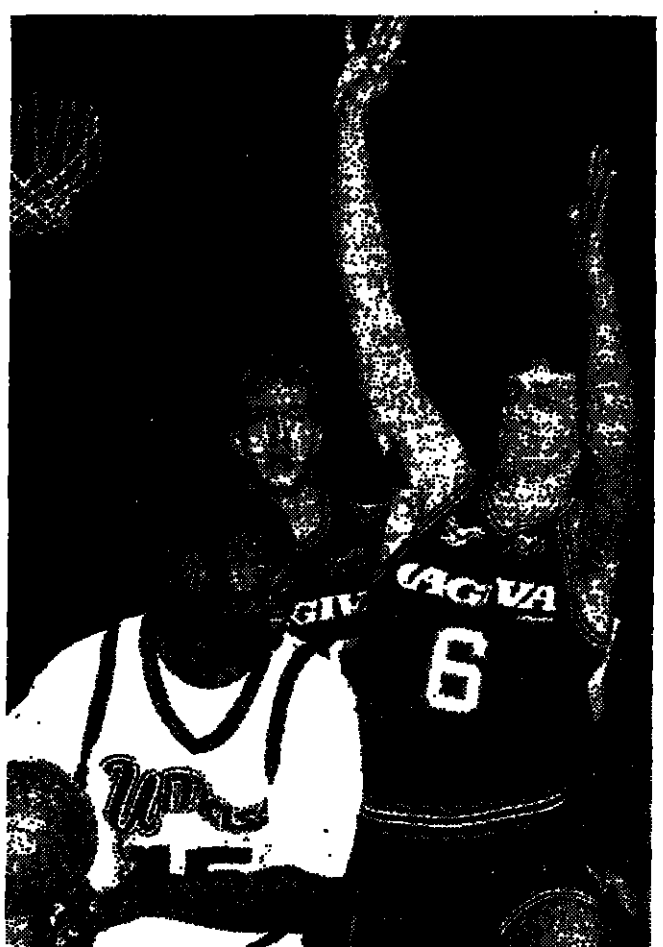
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Lou Roe, who got 27 points, was blocked by Arjan Komazec as No. 4 Massachusetts was beaten, 102-95, by the Italian club team Caviglia-Varese and lost its third straight in the Buckler Christmas Challenge in Strasbourg, France. Komazec scored 43 points, 31 in the second half.

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